

CHURCHMEN DENOUNCE POWELL'S ATTACK ON REV. L. K. WILLIAMS

MINISTERS CHALLENGE POWELL TO PRODUCE FACTS

DECY N. YORK PREACHERS
SERMON DISPARAGING MEM-
ORY OF DEAD MAN; c

Louisville, Dec. 10 (AP) — Seething indignation characterized the session of the executive board of the National Baptist Convention, Inc., meeting here last Wednesday for the first time since the death of Dr. L. K. Williams, president of the great religious organization, as its members discussed the posthumous attack made upon their leader in a sermon reported preached in New York city by the Rev. A. Clayton Powell, Jr., pastor of Abyssinian Baptist Church of that city. Rev. Powell was charged with unethical conduct by various ministers present who had read the story of his alleged intemperate utterance in an eastern newspaper.

The executive board adopted a set of resolutions extolling the work and character of Dr. Williams and expressing their unbounded confidence in the man and their reverence of his memory. At the same time the group condemned in scorching language the views alleged to have been expressed by Powell when, in a pulpit address, he is charged with seeking to link the name of Dr. Williams with the unsolved murder of E. D. Pierson, a former auditor for the National Baptist Publishing board of Nashville who was slain a dozen years ago as he traveled through Indiana to make a report to superior officers. Powell is charged with preaching a sensational sermon in which he struck at the dead man's memory by innuendo and in which he dragged the gruesome details of the unexplained tragedy forth in detail as he sought to link the name of his own denomination's departed chieftain to the event.

Bitter condemnation of Rev. Powell has been voiced by both ministers and laymen, not alone in Louisville but in Chicago and his own city of New York as well as throughout the country wherever the text of this attack had penetrated.

In New York City where the Baptist Minister's conference held a memorial service for Dr. Williams last Monday, leading pastors though not calling his name, branded the young preacher as "unchristian" and a "sensational maker". Rev. O. Clay Maxwell, pastor of Mount Olive Baptist Church and an officer in the National Baptist convention, said that Powell's alleged charges were "without any foundation in fact" and "unchristian and unwise". The conference then went on record as endorsing Dr. Williams' life and work. Observers expect the conference to demand a retraction by the young minister. The executive board here at Louisville instructed Atty. Wm. H. Haynes, its general counsel, to seek an explanation of the incident and to investigate what appropriate action might be taken.

Stepping across the denominational line, Dr. George Singleton, editor of the Christian Recorder, official organ of the African Methodist Episcopal church, charged Rev. Powell with being a "publicity speaker". In the same denunciation, Rev. A. Wayman Ward of Chicago, reflecting the attitude of the A.M.E. ministers of that city, said that the radical young minister's action as reported was "plain low down" and expressed the view that journalism which played up or accepted a statement of the sort without investigation was equally culpable.

In Chicago, the Baptist Minister's conference of Chicago and Vicinity, one of the largest local church organizations in the country, challenged Rev. Powell to produce his facts. In a set of resolutions passed last Monday, the conference went on record as follows:

"The Baptist Ministers Conference of Chicago and Vicinity was greatly shocked by an article appearing in the public press, credited to Rev. A. Clayton Powell, Jr. and attacking the memory of the late Dr. L. K. Williams.

"We do hereby invite Rev. Powell to come to Chicago at the expense of the Chicago Baptist Minister's Conference to give the definite facts and information upon which he based the statement credited to him. We issue this invitation to Rev. Powell because of our profound respect for and appreciation of the matchless leadership and untarnished character of the late lamented Dr. L. K. Williams."

THE OMAHA GUIDE

JUSTICE AND EQUALITY

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"THIS WEEK IN RELIGION AND THOUGHT"

Thinking and Giving

—BY ROBERT L. MOODY—

Much of our time will be given to making lists of presents for our friends. The true Christian and Christmas spirit should motivate our giving. It is human to think of those who gave us expensive presents, we are tempted to let this determine the amount we will spend on them this year. Or we might expect a person to give us something very valuable and give them a present commensurate to this expectation. On the other hand, we might remember that "Jane gave me a cheap handkerchief last year or Julia will not be able to give me much, so I will not have to spend so much on her."

Our giving should be governed by (1) Our ability to give; (2) The sincere spirit in which we may give the gift and (3) The happiness that the gift might bring to the receiver. Gifts to our close friends are not to be condemned, but we would do well to remember those who are poorer than we. They, too, are our friends and neighbors.

The world's greatest gift was given to us when we had nothing to give in return, and when we were unworthy of the gift. "God So Loved the World, that He Gave His Only Begotten Son." God gave Himself when He gave Christ. Let us give ourselves with the gift because "The Gift without the Giver is Bare".

—LET'S MAKE THIS A MERRY, MERRY CHRISTMAS—

HOPES FOR GREATER SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS TO THE RACE—



MISS ETTA MOTEN

GOVERNOR PRAISES ARTISTIC ADVANCE OF RACE; NORTH CAROLINA EXECUTIVE TELLS ETTA MOTEN FUTURE IS HOPEFUL

Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 10—Governor Clyde R. Hoey, expressed great appreciation for the progress which the Negro people of the nation and his state are making, along all lines, but particularly artistically, in a brief interview which he held with Etta Moten, the singer, in the executive offices here last week. Miss Moten, accompanied by W. R. Johnson, executive secretary of Negro work in the State Department of Public Welfare, had called to meet the governor. The charming visitor expressed her appreciation of the growing liberality and fairness, which the State of North Carolina is exhibiting, declaring that North Carolina could well serve as a pattern for some states of the deep South, though she declared that in her travels, she found improvement in racial relationships all over the South. She hoped, however, for far greater social, economic and educational benefits to the race, she said.

Miss Moten, who had given two concerts in Raleigh, one for St. Paul Church, and one for St. Augustine's College, was enroute to other engagements in the state, after which she was scheduled for Charleston, S. C., Aliquippa, Pa., Franklin, Va., and points in Indiana, Louisiana and Texas. In the latter two states, she sings at Alexandria, La., Dec. 12; Baton Rouge, La., Dec. 13; Galveston, Texas, Dec. 16; Beaumont, Texas, Dec. 18; and at Wiley College.

NAT TOWLES ORCHESTRA LEAVES FOR INDIANA

Nat Towles and his orchestra, will play for a dance at the University of Purdue, Lafayette, Ind., this week end.

The Nat Towles Orchestra will also play for a Christmas party for Mr. Satter of the Schaeffer pen and pencil company at Ft. Madison, Iowa.

NAME REV. JEMISON TO SUCCEED L. K. WILLIAMS

Louisville, Dec. 11 (ANP)—The executive board of the National Baptist Convention, Inc., met here Wednesday and named Dr. D. V. Jemison to serve as president of the National Baptist Convention, to fill out the unexpired term of Dr. L. K. Williams, who met his death in an airplane accident, last

ALPHA KAPPA SORORITY SET UP GAMMA BETA CHAPTER

Members of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority consisting of Sorors Gladys Ervin, Florence Myers and Robbie Davis, invited their regional director Soror Rosette E. Nolan of Kansas City, Missouri to grant them a charter and set up a chapter of their sorority, December 7, 1940.

Those who were initiated and became charter members were Sorors Rowena Jones, Ora Lee Britt, Anna Franklin, Ruth Solomon of Omaha University, Ione Williams Hanger of Creighton University.

It is the Gamma Beta Chapter

of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority. Sorors elected to serve as officers during the ensuing year are: Sorors Gladys Ervin, Basileus; Rowena Jones, Grammateus; Ruth Solomon, Tamiochus; Florence Myers, Reporter.

The setting up of the chapter and initiation was held at the beautiful and spacious home of Soror Gladys Ervin, 3001 North 30th Street. A round table discussion concerning the coming boulevards was held December 26-29, 1940 in Kansas City, Missouri was led by Soror Nolan while all participated in a delicious supper.

PROPOSE WM. DEAN PICKENS FOR SPINGARN MEDAL

FIGHT MAYOR OF DETROIT

AFTER POLICE CHIEF SLURS RACE

Detroit, Dec. 13 (ANP)—Ever since Police Commissioner Francis McMahon made the bold assertion that he "didn't understand why Negroes object to being called 'nigger' when they are called that in books and on the stage" a whispering campaign, emanating from several sources, is going the rounds against Mayor Edward J. Jeffries.

It is recalled that the head of the local police department made this statement in the presence of colored leaders at a conference with the mayor while protesting against police brutality on the part of some members of the police force.

The reason for the whispering campaign against the mayor, as stated by a member of the protesting committee, "is because the commissioner is appointed by the mayor and the only way to get rid of a bad police commissioner, who upholds brutality and has the effrontery to flaunt his racial antipathy in the face of Negro leaders calling them boys, is to get rid of the mayor."

For a long time, undue brutality on the part of the police towards Negroes has been a bone of contention here, and it seems that no mayor has as yet given much consideration to the appointing of a head for that department who would attempt to curb it.

It is being repeatedly stated that colored voters helped to elect the mayor and it is believed that they can also help to defeat him.

October.

Dr. Jemison, who lives at Selma Ala., and is president of the Alabama State Baptist convention, has been first vice president of the national, elected last September. He will serve as president until next September when the annual convention is held.

CALL UP FIRST RESERVE OFFICERS

Washington, Dec. 12 (ANP)—The first colored reserve officers ordered to duty will report to Camp Dix, N. J., on Monday next for extended active duty.

Chicago, Dec. 10 (AP) The Chicago Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People held its annual meeting Thursday night and amid considerable enthusiasm voted an endorsement of Dean William Pickens for the 1941 Spingarn Medal.

President Ira W. Williams who was reelected to serve his fourth term gave vocal evidence of the spirit of the meeting. Mr. Williams said: "In appreciation of the work done by Mr. Pickens not only for the NAACP, but for the Negro in every section of the country, I feel there should be some fitting reward for the services he has rendered. I see, therefore, no reason why the Spingarn Medal should not be his reward. The Chicago Branch has gone on record as endorsing Dean Pickens to be the proper person to receive this award."

Captain Archie Weaver, for years a prominent figure in NAACP circles and one of the moving figures behind the effort to give this new distinction to the popular Dean Pickens, announced that he and President Thos. L. Griffith, Jr., of Los Angeles were contacting every branch in the country, asking them to give their expression to their preferences for the person who should receive the Spingarn award.

Mr. Weaver in a formal statement said, "William Pickens has long merited some fitting reward for his effective attainments in bringing about a better understanding between the races and peoples of the world, and especially in our own country. His logic, wit and humor have made him world famous. He is now approaching his 60th anniversary and has given his life to education and to the eradication of prejudice.

"Mr. Pickens has appeared in 'Who's Who in America' each year for thirty years. His more than 10,000 speeches to many millions of people; his books; his newspaper and magazine articles as well as his personal contacts have all made him an outstanding character of our time. We are inviting friends and the public generally to acquaint the Spingarn Committee with their viewpoint."

They are Capt. Clinton C. Burke, William B. Edelin; 1st Lieut. Nathaniel King and 2nd Lieut. Arthur N. Fearing, all being from the 428th Reserve Infantry Regiment.

EDITOR HAS CHAT WITH MR. PRATT...

He Keeps Busy

Mr. E. Milton Wilson, employed by the Northwestern Bell telephone company, son of Rev. Wilson, who pastored St. John A.M.E. Church for a number of years, is really making good on his new job, according to the statement made by Mr. R. C. Pratt, Manager of the Public Relation Department of the Northwestern Bell telephone company. Mr. Wilson is one of Omaha's most popular young men. You never hear anything but some thing good said about Milton Wilson. He possesses one of the most even dispositions of anyone we know. A jolly good fellow always. The Negro population should be proud of his record in this new position he now holds at the telephone company. This type of record opens up new avenues of employment for our boys and girls as they come out of school.



MILTON WILSON

The Northwestern Bell Telephone Company is conscious of its duty in service to its customers and in pro-rating employment to the Negro race. This has been proven by the past record.

Mr. C. C. Galloway, acting editor of The Omaha Guide, some years ago called a committee of the Mid-City section together, for the purpose of organizing an unemployed married men's council. After forming the organization in the office of The Omaha Guide. It grew so fast that the meeting place had to be moved to the Northside Transfer building which space was donated by Mr. P. Hieronymous, Proprietor. Shortly thereafter, President C. C. Galloway saw the need of a building to serve the Unemployed Married men's and their wives during the lean days of a republican president and a democratic house and senate administration of 1930-31.

Mr. Galloway appointed a committee at 10 o'clock to call on Mr. Belt, who was then President of the Northwestern Bell telephone company. Through Mr. E. W. Sherman, of Edholm Sherman and Dry, who was chairman of the executive board of the Unemployed Married Men's Council. At 10 o'clock we were in conference with Mr. Belt in his office for the purpose of securing the old vacant Webster building, 2213 Lake street for temporary use of the 300 members of the Unemployed Married Men's Council. At 3:30 P. M. Mr. Belt telephoned Mr. Sherman that our request had been granted if we could comply with the necessary requirements for the protection of the telephone company in case of accident in the building while it was in use. That requirement was liability insurance. When the insurance was secured, Mr. Belt rented the building to the council under a year's lease for the sum of one dollar.

Later on, it became necessary to change the name from Unemployed Married Men's Council to Mid-City Community Center. Later on, for the good of the community it became necessary to merge the Mid-City Community Center with the Urban League under the administration of Mr. J. Harvey Kerns as executive secretary and Mr. E. W. Sherman as candidate for president. This all happened 10 years ago. So far as we know, a dollar a year lease has been continued from year to year and we doubt that the dollar per year rent has ever been requested.

One of the busiest cars in Omaha is the "Supply Service" auto, shown herewith, and one of the busiest drivers is E. Milton Wilson, who shuttles back and forth all over the city every day. The driver has a regular schedule of pickups and deliveries, and during the time in between regular trips there may be special trips of various kinds.

He picks up message rate tickets at the Market and Kenwood offices each Monday morning at 8 o'clock and on each bill date: delivers material to both "foot" installers and "mounted" installers whenever they have use for large quantities or there is an emergency; at 9 o'clock each day he delivers inter-office mail to the garage at 43rd and Cuming and picks up Western Electric mail at the 40th and Dodge postal station for the Western Electric warehouse.

He delivers his police detail report to police headquarters each day from the fire and police alarm service, which is located in the telephone building; at 11:30 each day he delivers inter-office mail between the headquarters building and the Market, Walnut, Glendale and Kenwood offices for all departments of the company; occasionally he picks up community chest subscription payments and runs other errands for the traffic department; at 2 p. m. each day he delivers equipment orders to the Western Electric Company for the supplies department and makes a second delivery of mail to the Western Electric Company; at 3 o'clock each day he makes a delivery of "1050" work orders to the Walnut office, so that plant men can start to make changes on the frames for the next day's orders.

Through this relationship of acting Editor of The Omaha Guide Mr. C. C. Galloway and the officials of the telephone company, the employment of Colored elevator operators has been brought about by this firm.

Right here we cannot overlook the humanitarian attitude of Mr. H. T. Sheerer, who was at that time calling on Mr. Galloway in interest of the service department of the telephone company. By chance it was casually mentioned in his presence the fact that we were short on fruit jars in our canning department. The following day, Mr. Sheerer appeared with his car loaded with fruit jars that he had collected from his friends to help along the cause.