

# NEWSPAPER DELEGATES TO TOUR FORT KNOX

Cleveland—Louisville, Kentucky, will be the scene of the Fourth Annual Conference of the Negro News Paper Publishers Association June 11 and 12, 1943, where in a three day stream-lined conference at the Brook Building 9th and Magazine Streets, publishers, editors and department heads of America's most influential Negro newspapers will discuss problems growing out of the war.

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The publishers are expected to bring to the meetings their editors, advertising managers, photo-engravers, circulation department heads and shop foreman for the important discussions to take place on problems affecting their various departments.

### HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

The Annual Message of the President to be delivered at the Friday June 11 Luncheon at 12:30 p. m., a public Mass Meeting where delegates will hear an address by Dr. J. E. Walker of Memphis, Tenn., under the sponsorship of the Falls City Chamber of Commerce; and a Special Luncheon meeting at which the delegates will be the guests of The Courier Journal and Times. Luncheon speaker will be Mark Etheridge, Editor of the Courier Journal, and former Chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices.

### OFFICERS

President, William O. Walker, Cleveland Call and Post; Secretary, Treasurer, Howard H. Murphy, Afro American Newspapers; Eastern Vice President, Mrs. Robert L. Vann, Pittsburgh Courier; Southern Vice President, C. A. Scott, Atlanta Daily World; Central Vice President, Louis E. Martin, Michigan Chronicle; Western Vice President, C. C. DeJole, Louisiana Weekly.

Executive Committee members are: John H. Sengstacke of the Chicago Defender; Frank L. Stanley of the Louisville Defender, and Miss Olive Diggs of the Chicago Bee.

In charge of local arrangements for the delegates at Louisville will be Frank L. Stanley, Editor of the

# OCD N-E-W-S

Commander J. E. Davidson of the Omaha Citizens Defense Corps urges that everyone in Omaha should become familiar with the new air raid warning system that will be used for the first time in Omaha's next unannounced day air raid test early in June.

It is recommended that the following explanation of the three air raid warning signals should be clipped and posted in every home for ready reference:

WHEN YOU HEAR	IT MEANS	YOU DO THIS
BLUE Warning	AIR RAID PROBABLE	Civilian Defense Mobilizes, Traffic and pedestrians movement continues.
RED Warning	AIR RAID IMMINENT	Workers at posts ready for action. Traffic stops, except emergency vehicles. Public takes shelter.
WHITE (All Clear)	RAIDERS HAVE GONE; DANGER IS PAST	Civilian Defense demobilizes, community returns to normal status.

## LOOKING AROUND HARLEM

(by DON DELEIGHBUR)

NEW YORK—The John Kirby band is a clannish outfit. The boys have been together so long and their minds blend along one line of thought so completely that they have built a tight little social circle among themselves that few outsiders can crash.

When you see Buster Bailey, you might see Charley Shavers tagging along, if Russell Procope is on the Avenue, he might be with either Kirby or Bailey or O'Neill Spencer the drummer, who last week, took suddenly ill on the stage at the Apollo Theatre and had to be rushed to the hospital.

The pianist, Clyde Hart, who took over when Uncle grabbed off Billy Kyle, is fast getting into the clan. Clyde is a quiet and reserved sort of chap who plays an awful lot of box. The boys like him.

Socially the John Kirby outfit is made up of the wives of the members: Mary Bailey, Margaret Kirby, Helen Procope, Blanche Shavers, formerly Blanche Bowman the well known dancer; and Mrs. Hart.

One of the wives told me the other night that if a family spat is going on in any of the boys' home, the rest of the musicians won't speak to the wife until the situation has cooled off.

The Kirby gang topped the Apollo presentation in a big way last week, especially after Troy Brown and Baron Lee were off the stage. Complaints were registered by many in the audiences who saw the show that "people today don't like all that vulgarity from performers. It isn't necessary at all to get laughs."

Brown and Lee, both veterans, went to the heights in turning stomachs of most of the better class element that came to the Apollo to hear Kirby and see the rest of the show.

The jokes used were definitely on the blue side and the sort of thing that gives Negro showfolk a black eye. Neither needed to crack such filthy tales. Neither had the need to put on sketches that were definitely out of order in any civilized community theatre.

For example: while Lee was singing a song in French, Brown, who weighs at least 300 lbs, was walking around the stage doing a strip tease act with all the unsubtle gestures that go with such an exhibition. Frank Schiffman muffed that one.

Charlie Barnet, who is doing more today in actual practice to demonstrate what democracy really means, took his band which features four topflight Negro musicians, to the Hotel Riverside Plaza on 73rd street in downtown Gotham Saturday night to play for the Young Men's League affair.

to carry on alone. Your wife does not like the idea of taking the child ren out of their present environment and occupying them up in a rooming house. This is war time, brother, and your part in it should be to do the best you can and make the best of life in the city. You can arrange to spend a few days a month with your family.

R. T. T.—I am not sick but I am worried all the time and can't rest. I believe my husband is the cause of it. What must I do to be happy again?

Ans: You just have too much time on your hands. If you will find some worthwhile interest or work, you won't have the time to sit around and pick faults with your husband. Why don't you join the other ladies in your community in their war activities. There's work to be done and the Red Cross will welcome your services.

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R. R. S.—I live on the lot where I work and my employer does not pay me but four dollars per week. I need more money so badly. Please tell me must I stay?

Ans: You are justified in desiring a change. Even though you are furnished with room and board, your salary is too small for the services you give in return. Explain how you feel to your employer and ask for a raise in salary. You'll get it.

L. C.—My husband gives me everything I ask for except love. I'm married and have a lovely furnished home. I would be supremely happy if he would only show some form of affection for me. Should I leave him?

Ans: He may not show his affection in "hugs and kisses" but nevertheless he loves you. Proof of this is his unselfishness and generosity in giving you a beautiful home, fine clothes and sufficient spending money. You had better love this boy and not consider leaving him. He may not be the affectionate type, but he doesn't object to you showering it upon him. Fact is, he likes it.

S. S. C.—Should I judge the girl I love by the character of her mother and her sisters?

Ans: If you do, you will lose her. It's not the girl's fault that her people are not all they should be. Her character is unblemished and she has certainly done right by you. Judge the girl for what she is and leave her people out of it.

X. X.—My job ran out a few months ago and I was forced to leave my home in search for work. I have a job in a Defense Plant in a distant city and my wife refuses to join me. What should I do?

Ans: If you can't convince your wife to join you there in the city, then you must make up your mind to carry on alone. Your wife does not like the idea of taking the children out of their present environment and occupying them up in a rooming house. This is war time, brother, and your part in it should be to do the best you can and make the best of life in the city. You can arrange to spend a few days a month with your family.

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## Plain Talk..



ELMER A. CARTER

When this war is over there will be thousands of colored boys who have gone down to the sea in ships. There will not be a few who have studied navigation and meteorology and other sciences necessary to guide ships over the trackless oceans. And there will be ships, hundreds and thousands of ships available for commerce, to convey the raw materials of undeveloped countries to the harbors of the great industrial countries.

The United States is going to be a real competitor for world commerce when this war is over. Make no mistake about that. Great Britain's strangle hold on world shipping and on world commerce is going to be broken and the right to equal access to the raw materials of the earth is going to be demanded and achieved by the United States. No matter what the cost—no matter how great the resistance.

A new century and a new world is in the making. Americans will penetrate the remote and hitherto forbidden hinterland of Africa, of India, of China. Wherever there is gold or tin or precious stones or Cassava, or palm oil or cocoa, or copper or hemp, or iron, Americans will seek and find it. American ships manned by American crews will follow engineers, prospectors, and merchants. In their holds will be carried the riches of the earth for exchange or sale to those where ever they are who want them.

Commerce transformed a little island into the British Empire. It made possible the rise of the great city-states of Venice and of Genoa during the Renaissance. It enabled Holland and Belgium to emerge from static poverty to great wealth. It has been the difference between national weakness and national strength. It is the interstate commerce within the United States between the states which has compensated for its lack of overseas commerce and enabled America to become a great and powerful nation.

The one thing about this program of the late Marcus Garvey which had a chance of success was his ill-fated venture into foreign commerce. The causes of this failure of his dream of a black political empire need not be discussed here. But his plan to acquire ships and to compete for a share of the world commerce directing his efforts to those countries predominantly Negro in population had much to commend it. "But even the great white shipping companies must be subsidized" I can hear the critics saying. "What chance has a Negro company?"

Well, this is not a crusade for a Negro shipping company. But it is a suggestion that it might be in the realm of possibility to interest white and Negro capital in a shipping venture after the war is over. There might well be commercial liaison between the people of Nigeria and the Gold Coast who raise sixty percent of the world's cocoa and whose rights to the resources and products of their native land are incontestable.

For almost a quarter of a century there cocoa growers of Nigeria and the Gold Coast have sought to sell their products directly to America and to other parts of the world. They have waged a sustained and courageous fight against powerful British interests who have sought to control the price and the market. They have been duped by American companies which bought their cocoa and then avoided payment for it. And they have learned bitter lessons.

America is the greatest cocoa consuming country in the world.

The greatest producers of cocoa are black men from the West Coast of Africa. There are ships and men to sail them. We might plan to make a bridge between the Negro farmers of Nigeria and the Gold Coast and the American Negro Entrepreneur which might be the beginning of the parcelation of the American Negro in world commerce. It's worth our thinking about.

THE OMAHA GUIDE IS YOUR PAPER— READ IT WEEKLY.

IBPOE, OF W. HEAD CALLS FOR INVESTIGATION AT CAMP STEWART, GA.

(Continued from page 1) who are sick or have been beaten. These men are used to being treated in a decent way, as citizens, and as soldiers should be treated similarly; and this expectation on their part appears to be the cause of the insults and brutalities that have been inflicted upon them by white soldiers and officers at this camp. These soldiers and officers are prejudiced against Negroes and particularly hate Northern Negroes who have been used to enjoying citizens rights.

"Such treatment has damaged seriously the morale of those trained soldiers and the reports concerning it, which will be used by Nazi agents and which are more than likely to be true because of the well known attitude of many southern whites toward Negroes, can seriously affect the morale of Negroes throughout the country and their faith in the justice with which their country treats them."

"In order to dispel these stories as baseless rumors if they are untrue, or to remedy the conditions if they are true, I respectfully urge that you appoint a commission of prominent civilians, to include at least one prominent Negro leader such as Judge William H. Hastie who was formerly with the War Department, to make a complete investigation and a prompt report. Many of the parents and members of the 369th are members of the Elks and I feel that it is the duty of our organization, whose patriotic record in support of the war through the purchase of bonds and

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