

NEGROES DEVELOPING RESISTANCE TO ANTI-DEMOCRATIC FORCES

NEW YORK—The year just ended has been one of the grimest in the history of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, declared Walter White, director of the organization, in a statement issued last night.

The year has been distinguished by the most brutal and unrelenting of all forms of racial oppression, and the most flagrant promises of political democracy and economic progress have been made to the colored people of the world.

The NAACP Annual Meeting on January 6 in New York City was the first of the year. The entire civilized world was shocked in 1946 by reports of the ultra-fascist American lynching mobs who tortured and mutilated Negroes and even women. It listened in disbelief to reports of the two-year killing and eye-roasting of Negro veterans freshly returned from a war to end torture and racial extermination. But it must be encouraged too when it watches the flame of resistance fanned into full life as Negroes and their democracy-loving friends fight the EPC, the historic victory over mob-crow seating in interstate bus travel, the unprecedented spectacle of 250 Negro veterans called out by NAACP branches in Mississippi, standing in the courtroom at the Bilbo hearings, anxious to speak against the hate-filled champion of lynching, the white students jamming the Austin Texas courtroom shoulder to shoulder with Negroes, giving encouragement to the Association's lawyers in their suit to force the University of Texas to admit qualified Negro students, all of this is a part of the flame.

The NAACP secretary significantly focused attention on the political scene with specific reference to the far reaching importance of the Association's Supreme Court victory in the Texas primaries case, which gave the right to vote to southern Negroes for the first time. "The new Congress is viewed with hope," declared Mr. White, "but Negroes will continue to view it with a large degree of skepticism. In 17 northern and border states with a combined electoral vote of 281, it should be remembered by both parties, the Negro vote could swing the balance of power. With Negroes going to the polls in the south, their votes must now be considered a decisive factor in any election. The Republicans now in power have just won in 1946 in which to prove to Negroes that they should remain in power."

The following are some of the highlights of the Association's work in 1946:

Nineteen forty-six was a year of tremendous growth for the Association. One hundred eighty-four new branches, sixty-four new youth councils and college chapters were chartered. The Association also set up in the national office a department of public relations, educational department, and made provisions for a church secretary. The staff of the Washington Bureau was augmented by the employment of a Labor Secretary. The thirty-first award of the Spingarn medal was made to Thurgood Marshall, Special Counsel of the Association. (See citation in July, 1946, Bulletin.)

Perhaps the most outstanding aspect of the Legal Department's work was the winning of the Irene Morgan vs. Commonwealth of Virginia case which established the legal principle that state segregation laws do not apply to interstate carriers. The Legal Department arranged for and directed the defense of some twenty-seven Negroes charged with crimes varying from attempted murder to illegal possession of weapons, as a result of the alleged riot in Columbia, Tennessee. Twenty-three of the defendants were cleared on all charges through the Association's legal efforts.

In the field of education, the Legal Department handled four university cases involving the right of Negroes to enter graduate schools in those states where segregation is practiced and not provisions made for Negroes in the graduate schools. These cases were instituted in Texas, Oklahoma, and two in Louisiana.

The Legal Department was successful in reducing the periods of confinement levied against former Negro servicemen by court-martial courts in a total of more than 2100 years and has had at least eight death sentences commuted. Hundreds of smaller cases were handled, including police brutality, extradition, housing, and employment problems. The Veterans' Bureau in Washington has served as counsel for similar members of the armed services who received less than honorable discharges before the various boards of review. They have gathered all laws and data on legislation relative to veterans, examining the same for the purpose of determining whether this legislation was discriminatory. It has carefully persuaded the activities of the Veterans' Administration and is fighting for the eradication of segregation and discrimination based on race in this, the largest government agency in existence today. It has urged in interstate commerce into its own facilities and provided for federal legislation for the aid of veterans. It is fighting discrimination in the armed services and pressing for full integration of Negroes into these services.

Some of the main features of the Association's work in 1946 included the formation of the National Committee for Justice in Columbia, Tennessee, setting up of the National Committee on Mob Violence, which included a visit by President Truman and the subsequent Civil Rights Committee which was appointed by the President. The Secretary served on the committee to study the UAW-GM strike controversy, aiding in the hearings before the Senate committee to determine the fitness of the several service, and in the Virgin Islands, and served on the Attorney General's panel on juvenile delinquency. The Association prepared detailed information presented before the Senate committee concerning Senator Filko. It strongly opposed the distorted facts as set forth in the Meader report concerning the activities of Negro troops in the European Army of Occupation. It sponsored the drafting of a new anti-lynching bill and a draft of a general bill for the protection of civil rights for citizens. It posted a \$10,000 reward in the matter of the quadruple Georgia lynchings.

Efforts of the NAACP to prevent discrimination in the operation of the employment service after its return to the states were outlined in the first Annual Report of the NAACP's Labor Department.

The report mentions that on September 11 Secretary Schweitzer of the U. S. Department of Labor agreed, for the first time, in a meeting of organizations called at the suggestion of the NAACP that segregation in the District of Columbia USPS would be abolished. The NAACP also asked governors of a number of states to adopt policies of no discrimination. The writing concludes, however, that the return of federal control is necessary if a real attack is to be made on discrimination.

Calling attention to specific cases of government job discrimination in Germany, Japan, and the United States, the document states, "It is safe to say that wherever our flag flies over a Federal establishment, there also do we find job discrimination." NAACP branches are currently playing an important role in attacking job discrimination in construction employment, the telephone, and textile industries, the report points out.

Leslie Perry reporting for the Washington Bureau, said that during the year 1946, in addition to working for the passage of legislation such as FEPC, Anti-Lynching and Anti-Poll Tax Bills, the NAACP gave increasing attention and support to measures of a non-racial character. The Cancer Control Bill which would have appropriated \$100,000,000 to combat that dread disease, the Atomic Energy Act which set up a civilian committee to develop and control atomic energy, and the continuation of effective price controls to keep down the cost of living were cited by Perry as some of the bills having no racial implications which the NAACP supported.

"Through the alertness of the NAACP" the report continued, "a non-discrimination amendment was introduced to the National School Lunch Act, approved by the President on June 4, 1946. The amendment was offered on the floor by Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., (D. N. Y.) at the request of the NAACP and assures that colored children in the south will participate equally in the free school lunch program."

Mr. Perry said that the efforts of the NAACP in Congress had contributed to the defeat in 1946 of legislation in Congress had contributed to the defeat in 1946 of legislation in Congress to establish peacetime military conscription. He said that the Association would renew that fight in 1947 unless the Peace-time Military Training Bill which is introduced assures that there will be no racial segregation or discrimination in the armed forces.

W. E. B. DuBois, Director of Special Research, NAACP, reports that the main literary work of the department has been the writing and preparation of a manuscript of the book, "The World and Africa," which Viking Press will publish in January, 1947. Dr. DuBois and his staff edited and revised the Prefatory Volume of the Encyclopaedia of the Negro. In addition to writing and editing, the NAACP has published in 1946 a petition to the United Nations on the plight of the Negro minority in the United States. Dr. DuBois wrote a great many articles for national magazines, and newspapers and has delivered scores of lectures and radio talks chiefly on the question of colonies and particularly colonies in Africa.

The NAACP's Veterans Bureau, in its first year of operation, under the directorship of Jesse O. Dedmon, geared its program in such a way as to be of maximum service to minority veterans, and Negro veterans in particular. It concerned itself, first, with the rehabilitation of veterans; next, the hospital and medical service, and third, the policy of the armed forces with regard to improving the position and hastening the full in-

Don Herold says:
Here are all the answers

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The DAY IS COMING
by ERIC HASS
Editor of the WEEKLY PEOPLE

Released by Calvin's News Service
Between 1,000,000 and 2,000,000 agricultural workers will drop out in the next five or six years from the southern labor market because of mechanization in the processes of producing cotton, sugar and rice.

This isn't my forecast? It's the forecast of Ewan Clague, director of the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics. Mr. Clague has his fingertips on more facts concerning employment and production than anyone else in the country. He ought to know.

And what does Mr. Clague propose doing about this gigantic tragedy that is about to strike the American workers? I hope you listen to this carefully because Mr. Clague's answer is as eloquent a testimonial as I have ever heard to the callousness of the so-called "liberal" mind.

Mr. Clague was speaking before the American Public Welfare Association at Baltimore, Maryland. He said that the next few years would not only see technological unemployment soar in the South—particularly among Negroes—but that improved technology would also cut a swath of jobs in urban industry all over the country. Then he added:

"This should mean a widely increased unemployment insurance and extension of such insurance to agricultural workers. Social insurance is one of the most constructive systems I know of to make free enterprise work."

Some folks may think I'm a little hard on Mr. Clague, that Mr. Clague is a real liberal-minded gentleman who wants to see to it that when workers are kicked out of their jobs by the "iron bouncer" they don't starve. Well, in my own defense I want to say that I don't like to see workers starve either. The difference between Mr. Clague and me is this: Mr. Clague accepts a new wave of technological unemployment as inevitable, like the recurrence of the seasons. I don't. I hold that technological unemployment is inevitable ONLY IF WE KEEP THE CAPITALIST SYSTEM. If we were to get rid of the capitalist system, then instead of kicking workers out of their jobs the new machines would kick hours out of the working day!

Please note that Mr. Clague talks about feeding technologically displaced workers and making "free enterprise" work all in one breath. Now to the capitalists, who are the beneficiaries of this system, that probably makes sense. But how much sense does it make to wage workers. To the people who risk the fate of being tossed on the industrial scrapheap? Does it make sense to you?

We've come a long way to the year and a half since V-J Day. Then the politicians were still talking about "full employment" and "60,000,000 jobs." The Congress passed an "Employment Act of 1946" that was supposed to erect a safeguard against the recurrence of mass unemployment. Actually, the Act is a lot of legalistic stuff and nonsense which provides "full employment" for only three people—The President's economic advisers who get \$15,000 a year each.

The other day, these advisers submitted their first report and it was a lulu! It was what the late President Roosevelt would call "iffy." In effect, it said that if business is good we won't have a depression in 1947! President Truman liked it, probably because it made no recommendations, hence can be filled like a used weather report.

It looks like the labor-displacing machine and depression have got to take their toll of jobs before any great number of workers are going to get fed up with this starve-awhile, cat-awhile system. For far-sighted folks however, now is the time to think hard about how to make the indicated changes in our social order. For the sake of our children and all the posterity to follow us, let us not regard unemployment insurance as the goal; let us rather set as our goal a social system in which there will be jobs for all, and peace and abundance.

July 25: Monroe, Ga. ROGER MALCOLM, GEORGE DORSEY, a veteran, together with their wives, WILLIE MAE and DOROTHY, were dragged from a car and shot to death by an armed band of twenty white men. Loy Harrison, a well-to-do white tenant farmer who allegedly needed their labor on his farm drove to Monroe on July 25 with three of them to make bond for Roger Malcolm. Malcolm had been jailed in Monroe on a charge of stabbing his former employer, army Hester, during a quarrel which arose over the undue attention being paid Mrs. Malcolm by the latter. Malcolm's temporary release was obtained. As the five were returning to Harrison's farm they were halted by a mob. Harrison was held at gunpoint while the Negro couples were lined up and shot. The coroner reported that at least sixty bullets were used to riddle the victims. Their mutilated bodies, scarcely recognizable, were found sprawled beside a clump of bushes on a lonely road.

August 3: Gordon, Georgia. (NAACP Investigator) JOHN J. GILBERT, participant in unionizing activities of chalk mines, died of "gunshot at the hand of unknown parties" on the morning of August 3rd, about 500 yards from his home while on his regular route to work at 5:30 in the morning. It was rumored in Gordon that his death came as a result of making enemies among the whites by his union activity.

August 8: Minden, La. JOHN C. JONES, 28, discharged veteran of European service was found dead two miles from Minden in Richland Parish. His body had been horribly beaten with "some flat object such as a wide leather belt or a thick plank." His face and body were burned with a blow torch so that his eyes were "popped" out of his head and his light complexion seemed dark. His wrists were mutilated with a cleaver and he had been partially castrated. He and his 17 year old companion, Albert Harris, were turned over by the sheriff to a mob in two cars, containing white men and one woman, a few minutes after their release from Minden parish jail, where they had been confined a week for allegedly attempting to break into the house of a white woman who refused to press charges. Jones and Harris were driven to the bayou, where Jones was tortured and killed and Harris

beaten and shot in the shoulder. Left for dead, Harris managed to escape, however. Jones, who had brought a German automatic from Europe, had been told by a white neighbor that he would get Jones' gun if he had to kill him to do it.

July 20: Rupert's District, Taylor County, Georgia. MACIO SNIPES, veteran, five only Negro to vote in the Georgia primary from Rupert's District, was shot and killed on the porch of his home by ten white men who pretended they had come to collect a \$10 debt.

July 24: Lexington, Miss. The lynching of LEON McTATIE whose body was found by a Negro fisherman in a Sunflower County bayou, occurred on or about July 24. McTatie had been accused of stealing a saddle, a fact later disproved. He was set upon and beaten by six white Mississippi farmers when he denied knowledge of the theft. Sheriff W. L. Murtagh said "it was evident" that McTatie had been thrown into the bayou from a car and that he was partisan problems affecting local dead have been apprehended. They deny all knowledge of his death.

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Randolph Warns Negroes Against Communist Carpetbaggers

(Continued from page 1)

Negroes and labor with fantastic promises of liberation, Mr. Randolph stated that the Communist program, policies and practices in the United States of America are to build bases among mass groups such as labor and the Negro, as well as among professionals, liberals and artists, not because they are concerned about advancing the well-being of these groups but primarily to tie Negroes and Labor and liberals to them with a view to using these forces for waging nation-wide propaganda in the interest of consolidating and strengthening the foreign policy of Soviet Russia.

Negro leaders are easily seduced by clever Communist politicians because the Negro leaders are uninformed about revolutionary movements and especially the subtle and devious tactics of the Communists. Mr. Randolph indicated that the Communist overtures of cooperation with minorities, labor and liberals should be rejected because of the following reasons:

1. The Communist party line is uncertain and change with too great frequency.
2. The policy governing the program and activities of the Communist in the United States as in other countries are made by the Polit-Bureaux in Soviet Russia. Communist in America are mere mechanical reflectors of this policy and are promptly purged if there is the slightest deviation.
3. Communist seek only to use Negroes and other minorities together with labor for the advancement of the cause of U. S. S. R.
4. Communist Party is a conspiratorial organization whose objective is world revolution through the propagation of civil war in various countries with the view to preventing the encirclement of Soviet Russia by hostile capitalist nations.
5. Communist advocate disloyalty to the United States.
6. Communist function through cells and caucus methods in all organizations.

Mr. Randolph continues, that during the war, as an evidence of the ruthless and ruthless indifference to the interests of Negroes, Communist not only refused to support the fight for a fair employment practice policy in war industries for Negroes, but it counselled against it by branding the movement as a "race war" and against the interests of Negroes. Communist not only insisted on the pledges of unions not to strike during the war but deliberately advocated strikebreaking because strikers might delay the shipment of lend lease material to Soviet Russia. This super-patriotism commented Mr. Randolph, came with ill-grace in view of the fact that just before Hitler invaded Russia, which was a signal for Communist patriotic frenzy, these

FOREVER BLOWING BUBBLES!



very same Communists were pickingeting the White House in Washington, D. C. and branding former President Roosevelt, now glorified by them as a saint, as a war monger and social fascist.

Randolph stated that Negroes who are the first fired and the last hired cannot afford to add to the handicap of being black another handicap of being red.

It is one of the cardinal principles of the Communist everywhere that Soviet Russia is the only faithful friend of the workers and upon that theory they advocate that workers of various countries turn against their native lands to support the Soviet Union in war of peace. This is a dangerous doctrine to be advocated among minorities and labor or liberals.

But I don't condemn Communists because they are radical. I condemn them because they are reactionary. Communists seek to make the public believe it must be communism or fascism. That is not true. There is a third course. It is a planned and planned economy within the framework of political liberty, democratic socialism. Negroes to be sure face a crucial hour of decision. The decision must be to reject totalitarianism on the right or fascism and totalitarianism on the left or communism. Negroes must not retreat a single step or either stand still. They must march forward to complete and full first-class citizenship in the United States and the world and seek, struggle and sacrifice and fight for complete equality—social, economic and political.

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QUOTES OF THE WEEK

"The dog had been" — Mrs. Latha Wagoner, San Diego, Cal., who, asking divorce, said hubby made her sleep with the poach.

"Why discourage young people from getting married?" — County Clerk E. Beemer, Reno, objecting to upping license fee to \$5.

"A city wife is worth a lot less" — Gertrude Egan, farm paper editor, who says a country wife's lifetime worth at \$1,000.

"Increasing wages without increasing productivity of workers doesn't make for higher living standards and greater purchasing power" — Leslie Gould, financial editor.

"The country is tired of needless and wasteful spending, and being soaked with burdening taxes because of faults of the government." — Rep. Kimpton, Minn.

"A Washington optimist is a fellow that doesn't care what happens—as long as it doesn't happen to him!" — Herb Shriner, commentator.