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The Importance Of NAACP Legal Defense Fund

By A. Maceo Walker, President, National Insurance Association

Are Negroes free to vote as they please in all sections of the United States?

Are Negroes free to attend all public schools and colleges in all sections of the United States?

Are Negroes free to enjoy all recreational facilities supported by public funds?

The answer to these questions is an emphatic "No".

The United States is the greatest democracy on earth. Yet, in many areas (the State of Mississippi is an example), Negroes are denied the right to vote.

The right to vote is the inalienable right of all citizens under a democratic form of government. Until all qualified Negro voters are granted this right everywhere in the United States, we are in need of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund.

All Americans who love Democracy, White or Negro, and most certainly all Negroes, should contribute to the Legal Defense Fund.

The May 17, 1954 decision and the May 31, 1955 implementation order of the Supreme Court are great and unprecedented victories. Many of us are under the impression that there was an absolute finality involved. This is not true. This is only the starting point. Some of our Southern governors have pledged to fight to the last ditch.

In some instances, it will be necessary that the NAACP Legal Defense Fund press suits county by county and city by city. This will be not only a long but a very costly project. Many thousands of dollars will be required to press these suits. This is why it is so vitally necessary that we rally to the support of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund with our gifts in money, large and small. The Fund is in need of money. Lip service will not accomplish the job.

It is a sad and lamentable fact that the Southern governors who have pledged to fight in behalf of segregated schools the hardest have provided the poorest school systems for Negro children.

Inferior education has been largely the means (along with job discrimination) of keeping the Negro a second-class citizen. That is the reason why segregated school systems must be abolished. A segregated school system will always be inferior. This has been true for ninety years. There is no basis of fact to support the statement that we can have "separate but equal."

Our children must have equal education.

The time has long since passed when a child, poorly equipped in formal training, can compete in our advanced civilization. It is becoming more and more difficult to pull ourselves up by our own bootstraps unless we have the proper educational background. We cannot fail our children now.

The fight for full citizenship has not been won and will not be won as long as Negroes and other minority groups are discriminated against in any phase of our democratic way of life.

While the NAACP Legal Defense Fund can proudly point to a long line of continued success in cases in its struggle for "equal justice under law," our old man "Jim Crow" is not yet dead. The NAACP Legal Defense Fund and none of us can afford to relax until, with the help of God, we see the end of segregation and Jim Crow.

Let us all contribute to the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund! Send your contributions today—now. The address is 107 West 43rd Street, New York 36, N. Y.

What About These Power Aids?

CHICAGO — Power brakes and power steering can get you into trouble when driving on ice because they make it easier to over-control.

That fact is pointed out by the National Safety Council in a new booklet on winter driving hazards, based on 16 years of actual research on frozen lakes.

"This will be the first winter during which a large number of cars equipped with power brakes and power steering will be on the road," said Arnold Vey, director of traffic and transportation for the Council.

"Many drivers have not been adequately instructed in using the new equipment, especially under winter conditions. We need a new look at some of the ABC's of driving today's car safely and skillfully."

The Council's winter driving booklet covers the ABC's in detail, emphasizing the necessity to practice smooth driving all year so that it is a habit when roads are slippery.

Over-controlling is one of the chief winter driving errors, according to the Council. Starting, stopping and changing direction too suddenly causes many damaging and sometimes fatal skids.

Since power brakes and power steering make it easier to lock the brakes or over-steer as the result of a panicky reaction to an emergency, the Council's booklet recommends that drivers practice using a deft touch on such devices.

Automatic transmissions and hydraulic drives give good starting control on ice and snow, the booklet states. However, if your car has "dual range" transmission it is recommended that the lower or "S" range be used on slippery surfaces.

Here are some tips from the booklet on starting, stopping and steering:

STARTING — Adjust the seat correctly so your foot rests fully and easily on the accelerator. Feed gas slowly and smoothly to avoid spinning the wheels. With a gear shift car, start in second. Don't let the clutch pedal out fast. It does no good to lower tire pressure on modern tires. Snow tires may help, and tire chains definitely will.

STOPPING — Learn the technique of pumping your brakes. Apply the brakes quickly (lock them) for an instant, and as quickly completely release them for an instant. Repeat this on-off action rapidly to a full stop. The effect is to give short intervals of maximum braking, alternated with short intervals of effective steering when wheels roll. This pumping method is especially important with power brakes.

Council tests have shown that reinforced tire chains cut braking distances in half on both snow and ice. The reinforced tire chain has projecting teeth or cleats on the link of each cross chain. They not only give the best stopping and traction performance, but also provide excellent resistance to side skids.

Some snow tires give substantial advantage in loose snow and slush, but they are not much more effective than regular tires for ice or hard-packed snow, the booklet advises.

STEERING — Turn your wheel carefully to take advantage of the maximum steering power of your tires. If you should over-steer

straighten a bit and then turn again. This can be compared to the "pumping" technique recommended for brakes. If you start to skid, turn your wheels immediately in the direction of the skid, but don't over-compensate.

A single copy of the helpful booklet on safe winter driving may be obtained free by writing Committee on Winter Driving Hazards, National Safety Council, 425 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago 11, Illinois.

Kellom Kapers

Thanksgiving greetings from Bob Ackerman and the Kellom Community Center's Staff.

Around the Center
 Getting in the Thanksgiving mood, the Kellom Youth Council presented its annual basket to the Douglas County Welfare Bureau, who will distribute it to a needy Omaha family. Included in the basket is a large 11 pound turkey.

Kellom Teenage Club, the Gay-ettes, who meet in the auditorium every Tuesday night at 7:30 announces its 1955 officers as: President: Lottie Harris; Vice President: Elsie Tullis; Secretary: Sharon Bryant; Treasurer, Anita Tullis.

The Youth Council has added several probationary members to their roster. They are: Carol Anders, Ruth Billingsly, Estella Vaner, Gloria Hogan, Wanda Biddles, Jackie Wall, Marion Jones, and Janie Bush.

The Kellom Air Rifle Club was on the firing range Thursday night for the first time since the organization of the 1955 group. Several boys looked very impressive in their shooting and gun handling ability. The Club will hold its next meeting on December 1 at 7:30 P.M. at 2302 Charles Street.

Harold Shields proved to be one of the Center's "brains" as he defeated 14 boys to win the Junior Boys Checker Champions which were held on November 4.

A four Team Women's Basketball League is scheduled to start December 1. Entries in the league are Omaha Merchants, Offutt WAF's, St. Peter and Paul and Commercial Extension.

Velma Johnson and a group of teenage girls are practicing every Tuesday and Thursday evenings soon under the direction of John Favor to enter the City's Class "B" Girls Basketball League which will begin on December 1 at the Florence Community Center.

Junior Boys Basketball Tournament will continue after the Holiday with action on November 29 and 30. The 29th is also the day for a final meeting of all managers who plan on entering teams in Junior Boys Basketball Leagues.

Senior Boys Basketball
 As the Senior Boys Basketball League got underway Crusaders, Blue Trotters, and Purple Tide won first game victories.

Bob Winters' basket enabled Purple Tide to nose out the Roses 40-42 in overtime. Kenneth Long scored 13 points for the Roses.

Art Chatman out-scored Jim Dempsey 11-10 as the Crusaders defeated Celtics 39-29.

Harry Posse was the night's highest scorer in the Blue Trotters' 26-25 eke over Purple Tide.

BOX SCORES

Roses	fg	ft	pts
E. Cooper	3	0	6
S. Pruitt	1	0	2
K. Long	6	1	13
R. Merrill	2	0	4
W. Titsworth	4	0	8
T. Lafayette	3	1	7

Crusaders	fg	ft	pts
Chatman	4	3	11
Barnes	1	0	2
Mayhue	1	0	2
Burgess	2	3	7
Robins	2	0	4
Lane	1	0	2
Mackey	1	5	7
Harrington	2	0	4

Rockets	fg	ft	pts
Booth	1	0	2
Seefus	4	0	8
Ulison	1	1	3
Arndt	1	0	2
Straub	4	0	8

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Bryer	1	0	2
Purple Tide	fg	ft	pts
B. Urwin	0	0	0
J. Buckles	4	0	8
B. Winters	4	3	11
T. Butera	7	0	14
M. Mares	3	3	9
Celtics	fg	ft	pts
Zitka	0	2	2
Dempsey	4	2	10
Socha	0	0	0
Connelly	1	3	5
Sterba	4	1	9
Semin	1	1	3
Blue Trotters	fg	ft	pts
Raynor	0	3	3
Posse	5	5	15
Schmit	2	1	5
Stuben	0	0	0
Nolan	1	1	3
	8	10	26

Newcombe Contends He's Worth \$30,000

Will Hold Out If Necessary

Brooklyn, N. Y. — Pitcher Don Newcombe has met with the Brooklyn brass to "feel out" for his '56 contract and though vice-prexy Buzzy Bavasi expressed Don's asking for \$30,000 as "outrageous"—to Newcombe it certainly isn't. He only made \$17,500 last season.

Newcombe will tell you he took a cut when he wasn't worth it and now feels he deserves not only the cut reinstated but a good-size raise. Newk also says he was around last year when Manager Alston didn't have another pitcher sound enough to go the route but Don.

About the first meeting in which there was a lot of kidding around, Newk reported "There's one thing I'm not kidding about and that's the \$30,000. I think I'm worth it."

Said Bavasi to that: "He deserves a raise and he'll get it, but he won't get thirty."

It's a good guess that Bavasi will offer Don a base of \$25,000 and return the \$2,500 cut. Meanwhile, renegotiating won't begin again until three weeks.

Legion Make Plans For Drive

Theodore Roosevelt Post No. 30 American Legion is making elaborate plans for a big smoker to start its fall membership drive. This event will be at the Legion Hall December 15, 1955. An all out effort is being put forth to make this affair one of Omaha's greatest events. All Legionnaires, all Veterans of Wars I, II and Korean campaign are asked to come to the Legion Hall and enjoy this great Smoker. Everything will be free and this is your chance to renew old acquaintances and meet new buddies.

Remember our sick. They are: Ralph Underwood, Richard Johnson, Jessie White, and others not reported. Please go out to see these comrades.

The Ladies Auxiliary is doing fine and at their last Rummage Sale the result was very encouraging and the net proceeds very good.

Don't forget the big membership Smoker to activate the membership drive. This is all in accord with our aim, to grow stronger to be able to serve better. In this we know that we will fulfill our service to God, our country and our fellowman.

J. L. Taylor, Commander
 H. L. Embry, Jr., Adjutant
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New Jersey Home Owners Accept Negro Neighbors

When Negro homeowners move into a community, in many cases there is opposition on the part of neighbors and even violence occurs. But fortunately there are exceptions to this pattern, and the community of Teaneck, New Jersey, is one of them, says Selwyn James in Redbook Magazine.

Although the residents of Teaneck panicked at first, they later made the calm decision not to give up their homes and they set out to live amicably with their colored neighbors in an interracial community. Writing in the December issue, Mr. James tells how this wise move preserved for the people of Teaneck the market value of their homes and their own integrity as well.

"Until Jay Payne, a Negro, began working on his house, this part of Teaneck was traditionally 'all-white', although it housed members of various nationalities and diversified religions. When the Paynes moved in three years ago, their white neighbors did not openly voice their resentment. They sat tight watching and waiting. Property values did not fall; in fact, the real-estate market rose slightly in keeping with the national trend. Anxieties were relaxed and although the Paynes made no lasting friendships with their white neighbors, they were not made to feel unwelcome.

"During 1954 other Negro families began to move into the community. Most of them bought homes in a few streets on the fringes of the area; only one or two Negro families moved into the broad 'white' avenues in the heart of the community. By the end of the year the total had risen to 28 Negro families, with property values still intact.

"The trouble didn't start until early in 1955, when a too-enterprising real estate firm in a neighboring town, hearing of the interracial trend in Teaneck, began to use scare tactics in the hope of forcing sales and collecting commissions. In a sudden invasion of the neighborhood, the company's agents opened a high-pressure door-to-door campaign. They told each home owner: 'You are living in a fringe area. Negroes are moving in all around you. Why not put up your house for sale now while you can still get a good price for it?'

"It was then that the selling began. It soon spread through the entire community, even to streets seven and eight blocks from the house of the nearest Negro family. Before long Henry Deissler, Teaneck's nonpartisan mayor, quit the big house on Shepherd Avenue in which he had lived for years.

"To keep business booming, the soliciting realty agents began to sow distrust among neighbors. As these tactics went on, the Negro families in the community sensed a growing hostility. White neighbors began to eye one another suspiciously. The inquiry, 'Are you selling out?' became a challenging question met by silence, hesitant denials or embarrassed admissions.

"But the tide stopped when some of the residents, reluctant to leave a community they liked, began to hold block meetings in an attempt to talk the thing through. As one resident said at a meeting, 'Unless we want to sell at a loss, there's only one thing we can do. Take it easy. Try to persuade your neighbors to stop these panic sales, and let's try to get those real-estate men to cut out scare tactics.' After that we ought to get in touch with our new Negro neighbors and get their co-operation. I've a notion they don't want this to become a run-down community any more than we do.'

"At the end of the meeting, the neighbors had already decided to remain in their homes and had promised to try to persuade others to do the same. Meanwhile an emergency committee was formed to track down local rumors and to find out how other communities were dealing with similar upheavals.

"Within a week a promise had been extracted from the offending real estate firm that they would stop their scare tactics. With research that took committee members to libraries, state housing authorities, dozens of real estate offices and such expert organizations as the National Committee Against Discrimination in Housing, answers

were prepared to almost any questions that could be asked on what was happening. Residents flocked to the block meetings now being held on almost every street. Questions and answers, compiled from the experiences of many other communities, were discussed. Uninhibited talks like this inspired a dramatic development—the appearance of NOT FOR SALE signs in windows.

"By the end of June, both white and Negro residents announced the formation of the Teaneck Civic Conference. Its aims are to stabilize home values, to discourage hasty selling and to plan

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