

Portland Challenger

An Independent Newspaper

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Danger Mounts in Africa

The policy of white exclusiveness so strongly evident in the governmental operation of the Union of South Africa is shaping quickly one of two alternatives that must eventually be faced by that country. The Premier Malan-led government must either accept a political partnership with the coloreds or face the dark aspects of a black rebellion. Delay in reaching a human agreement with the native population will only make the terms higher. Already their resistance to the rigid segregation laws laid down to enforce the government's apartheid policy has gone past the passive stage.

Under the leadership of Dr. D. F. Malan, the country is so definitely opposed to any miscegenation between the European and non-European races that it is making a vigorous attempt to separate territorially, politically, residentially and, as far as possible, industrially these two groups. These principles have been amplified and reiterated by Dr. Malan in radio broadcasts to the nation and in Parliamentary and public speeches in debate.

Dr. Malan has made it clear to the UN that South Africa accepted its organization "on the unequivocal understanding that there was to be neither external interference in our domestic affairs nor any tampering with our autonomous rights."

The native population of the Union of South Africa numbers 8,410,935 in comparison to a white population of 2,588,933. Additional population figures show 1,078,621 coloreds—a group composed of mixed blood resulting from intermarriage between Europeans, natives, and Malays (intermarriage is now unlawful); and 358,738 Asiatics. This latter group is predominantly Indian.

Taking note of this population ratio, coupled with the worldwide opinion that international peace is unobtainable if equality isn't allowed to exist among man, one can easily see the futility of South Africa's white supremacy doctrine. Instead of following some planned effort aimed at eventual equality to the black man, the white man in South Africa is using all the instruments of his authority to degrade further the place of the native in a world society. This blind policy of nationalism, giving no thought to world changes and opinions, has caused race relations in the Union to deteriorate sharply in the last four years alone.

The economic and political squeeze put on the black man is beyond the imagination of the American Negro. Here in the United States the trend is definitely forward in honest individual recognition of all American citizens. In the Union of South Africa white stubbornness is brewing a situation so complex in race relations that the sporadic violence now evident is capable of exploding into full-scale revolution.

One doesn't have to be a fortune teller to foresee the danger to world peace so apparent in the South African society as dictated by the Malan government. For even though the white man is largely responsible for the present day advanced stage of South Africa's material development, he couldn't have done it without the assists rendered by the native people. Certainly these people deserve a partnership in the country they helped to build, and large numbers of them are now insisting upon this partnership.

Portland Urban League Notes

Area 5 of the Multnomah county United Fund drive, headed by Reuben A. Lindley and Mrs. Sylvia Newsom, was the first to reach the 100 per cent mark in their division. The area went over the top in excess of 125 per cent.

According to E. Shelton Hill, industrial secretary, combined efforts of the Urban League and the Oregon Bureau of Labor have been successful in allowing Negro laundry workers to obtain jobs in Portland cleaning establish-

ments through the local Laundry Workers Union.

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt made mention of the Portland Urban League in her column "My Day" in her October 6 release. Mrs. Roosevelt commended the work of the Portland League.

—Interracial Progress (Portland Urban League)

Only nine days left to get your NAACP Christmas seals. Buy them now! Call GA 2466 or 3037.

Cagey Play Cons Confidence Men

Two men, hard at work trying to confidence a local business man out of \$500 last month, found, too late, that they had been "conned" themselves and were arrested before they had a chance to escape.

Herman Plummer, realtor, was approached by Clarence Turner, 32, as he left the First National branch bank at Union avenue and Russell street. Turner engaged Plummer in conversation and finally produced a money belt to show the realtor a large sum of money.

As planned, Turner's partner, Charles Berg, 25, passed on the street and was engaged in the conversation himself. Finally Turner bet Berg and Plummer that Plummer could not withdraw \$500 from his account.

Playing along with them, Plummer accepted the bet and entered the bank supposedly to get the money. He quickly sized up the situation for clerks and they cooperated with him by immediately calling the police and then ushering the realtor behind the counter to engage him in conversation supposedly about the large sum of money he intended to draw.

Suspecting foul play, Berg entered the bank to observe and determined that police had been summoned. But before he could warn Turner and escape, officers arrived and made the arrest.

Turner and Berg, both transients, were held at \$1500 bail each. Plummer elected to prosecute them and the trial is set for Wednesday.

Ladies Get First In Card Tourney

Whist players in the Alpha Phi Alpha card party held at the St. Philips parish the last of November were Mrs. Sylvia Thompson, first; Marvin McKinney Sr., second; and Miss Jackie Richardson, third.

First place in the bridge tourney was Mrs. Geneva Franklin. She was followed by Mrs. Gustavia Thompson and Mr. William Thompson in that order.

Richard Neal walked off with a box of groceries.

Host to the card fun was Portland's Epsilon Zeta Lambda chap-

FEP LAWS DEBATED

The question of the effectiveness of compulsory FEP legislation was debated Monday evening at the Portland Air Base theater. The program, under the sponsorship of the Portland Air Force Information and Education department, featured the debate teams of the air base, affirmative, and University of Portland, negative.

Many NAACP members were in attendance and offered comments from the floor. The air base team was judged winner.

Articles on Africa To Start in January

A series of features decribing cultural aspects of present-day Africa will be published by the Portland Challenger beginning in the next issue. Writer will be Ephraim Layode, from Ibadan, Nigeria in West Africa. Layode is currently a senior at University of Portland where he majors in education.

Here since February, 1950, Layode has also studied in London, England.

We Miss Them

We've been missing your news tips! If you have news or news of news why not drop us a line or call, MU 4092 or EA 0330.

Mixed Education

From Tuesday through Friday the United States Supreme Court is hearing arguments either questioning or supporting the constitutionality of segregated education now being carried on in 13 states.

For 56 years education for the Negro has been carried on according to a decision promulgated in 1896, just 31 years after the Civil War, which upheld the doctrine of the constitutionality of separate but equal facilities. We submit that the doctrine in question is both detrimental and unconstitutional.

HISTORICALLY TRACED

That 31 year period just following the civil war was characterized by efforts to bring about amiable conditions of relations between the North and South. It is historically referred to as the period of reconstruction. More important to the whole question is the position that the Negro found himself in during this period. He became an important political, or should we say diplomatic, football to be kicked around in partial justification of Northern interference into Southern affairs. Of course humanitarian instinct did as much to elevate the economic and social position of the Negro, too.

NEGRO FORGOTTEN

Toward the turn of the century the question became one of diminishing importance, and the Negro, still in dire need of assistance and acceptance, became a relatively forgotten man. Thirty-one years was just enough time for the question to assume relative unimportance; for common racist sentiments to gain the fore, and for the significance of a once earth-shaking Emancipation Proclamation to be forgotten. Thus the Supreme Court decision of 1896, ruling separate but equal educational facilities for the Negro constitutional.

Having attempted, briefly, to explain the reason for the ruling in the first place, we now come to a consideration of whether the ruling is fair. We offer three reasons in support of the opinion that the ruling should be abolished.

1. Unconstititutional—Because of the old decision Negro students are denied civil and social equality. The ruling does as much as any direct racist pressure to perpetuate the doctrine of inequality because of skin color. The idea of separation or segregation practiced on a racial basis implies inequality. What other justification for separation is there, in this case, but the implication of inequality. In this light, then, the old doctrine becomes unconstitutional, being a misinterpretation of the fourteenth amendment which denies states the right of "making or enforcing any law which shall abridge the privileges . . . of citizens of the United States." The old ruling is also antipathetic to the spirit of the Bill of Rights and Declaration of Independence.

2. Unfair in practical application—Due to racist sentiment and perhaps to human infallibility provisions for "equal" educational opportunities have not been equal for the Negro. Educational facilities provided by taxes and endowments have been sorely lacking so far, and because of this Negro students are denied full and modern educational experience and Negro graduates of these segregated schools are being denied full benefits, economically and socially.

One study shows in terms of dollars just how Negro students are being denied equal educational privileges. It reports that in 17 states and the District of Columbia an average of \$73.67 is spent annually on white elementary school children while only \$32.46 is spent on the Negro children.

According to this same study school property value, when broken down to per pupil terms, is \$224 for each white child and \$52 for the Negro child. Teacher salaries vary also; \$1307 being the average for teachers in white schools and a corresponding \$939 for teachers in Negro schools. These statistics are for the period from 1943 to 1945 and since then there has been some equalization. Nevertheless, in 1952, the same picture is still tragically true.

3. Cost of segregation staggering—The cost of providing and maintaining separate school system has proved to be tremendous. No figures were immediately available for this article, but it is safe to say that millions of dollars could be saved if there were provided one, mixed system in each of these states.

It is recognized that, when accepted, these Negro students will have to be provided for in terms of a generally enlarged school system, but the economy will still be expressed in terms of millions.

NAACP Seals Explained



William Underwood, left, local NAACP area president, explains the sale of that organization's seals to James Farmer, organizer of Congress of Racial Equality, while Mrs. Underwood looks on. (Photo courtesy of the Oregonian)

Portland Miss To Marry Soon

Former Portlander, Miss Imogene Fatheree, is engaged to marry Los Angeles attorney Thomas George Neusom, according to a formal announcement by her mother, Mrs. Ada Lou Fatheree of Portland and San Antonio, Texas.

Miss Fatheree, a Jefferson high school graduate, first revealed

her engagement at a recent Sunday meeting of the Siquanon club in Los Angeles of which she is president. She is also a member of Delta Sigma Theta sorority.

A sister and brother here in Portland, Mrs. Gladys Lewis and Milton Fatheree and their families plan to attend the ceremony.