

Family Album Northwest

By Kathryn Hall Bogle

(This is the fifth and final installment of the Beatrice Morrow-Cannady Taylor story as it unfolded from the pages of the Cannady family album. The album, with its pictures, belongs to Ivan Cannady, the son of Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Cannady, formerly of Portland, Oregon. Presentation has been by Kathryn Hall Bogle.)

Probably the zenith of happiness in Mrs. Cannady's public life in Oregon was reached in 1927 when she was selected to be Oregon's representative among 50 American women chosen to be hostess for the fourth Pan-African Congress to be held that year in New York City. The first Congress had met in 1919 in Paris. London and Brussels had been hosts in 1921, and London and Lisbon had been sites for the meetings in 1923.

To help defray the expenses for such a trip, several friends of Mrs. Cannady planned a series of silver teas in her honor. Several of the hostesses has been part of her informal network of individuals interested in inter-racial unity and had previously lent their homes for teas to aid the getting-acquainted steps in the process of gaining goodwill atmosphere for the community. The teas were well attended and funds collected allowed Mrs. Cannady to attend the congress without drawing too heavily on her personal resources.

The experience with the Pan-African Congress was a moving one for Mrs. Cannady for no sooner had she arrived home than she was making plans to make her experience real to the local public.

Accordingly her presentation was set for November 18 and 19, 1927 at Portland Central Library. It was to be called a "Program of an Interpretation of the Fourth Pan-African Congress - and an - Inter-Racial Educational Meeting." Further information listed Mrs. E. D. Cannady as promoter and Northwest hostess to the Fourth Pan-African Congress. Sponsors were named as "The Fellowship for Better Inter-Racial Relations" -



Calendar drawing: Mrs. Cannady

Mrs. J. J. Handsaker, Chairman.

Listed as Patronesses were about 70 women of both races. Some of them were:

Mrs. L. A. Ashford, Mrs. Elbert Booker, Amy Becton, Lena Bowers, Helen Crowe, Mrs. William Deiz, Saidie Dunbar, Cora Franklin, Lulu Gragg, Mrs. Roy Garnett, Mrs. Mable Henderson, Mrs. G. E. Ivy, Mrs. J. W. Latimer, Myrtle Maxwell, Mrs. John Moreland, Mrs. Sidney Porter, Mrs. Phil Reynolds, Mrs. Jerry Turner, Alice Holliday, Mrs. Elmer Colwell, Senora A. R. Vejar and Mrs. Oliver

Wickersham.

The fanfare began at 10:00 a.m., on Friday, had an afternoon session and an evening session. There were three such sessions also on Saturday.

On Friday, Nettie J. Asberry, a prominent Black club woman from the Seattle-Tacoma area came down to accompany audience singing for the Negro Anthem. Mr. Edgar Williams spoke on the history of Colonel Charles Young. Mrs. Cannady gave a history of the Pan African Congress and "salient statements from speeches of the delegates to the Congress." Greetings from Portland Public Schools were brought by Superintendent Charles A. Rice. Timothy Tillman talked on "Signs of Economic Progress in Africa." Gwendolyn Hooker gave readings from Negro poets.

On Saturday the program included "An Economic Survey of Negroes of the World" by Clarence Ivey. "The Cloud over South Africa" was discussed by Phil Reynolds. Some half dozen sketches

of the lives of famous Black men were given by Portlanders. During the afternoon "Greetings from the newspaper Fraternity" were presented by Marshall A. Dana of the *Oregon Journal*. Mrs. Cannady delivered "Findings of the Fourth Pan-African Congress." Songs and instrumental music by Black composers were laced artfully throughout the programs of both days. Dr. Norman Coleman of Reed College closed the program of both with his lecture on "The Imperative need of Inter-Racial Cooperation in Solving World Problems."

Charts and maps used to illustrate several speeches were credited to the art department of Grant High School. Foreign flags were loaned by Meier & Frank Co.

Sounds fairly contemporary, doesn't it? But it all happened over fifty years ago.

Mrs. Cannady left the Northwest for the sunnier climate of California sometime after 1940.

In Los Angeles she became Mrs. Cannady-Taylor and gradually withdrew from the hectic schedule of a public life. Up to the year before her death, she enjoyed the contact with school children and young adults.

The family album yields some final photographs showing Mrs. Cannady-Taylor on the day she was honored by the 49th Street Public Elementary School in Los Angeles. Buildings of their school complex are named for Jackie Robinson, Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington.

Now one of their buildings is known as the Beatrice Cannady-Taylor Building.

From her own pen we find these lines to close this album of Beatrice Morrow Cannady-Taylor. The little poem is an example of Tanka, the most ancient style of Japanese poetry. Tanka verse, intriguing to Mrs. Cannady, scans at five or seven syllables per line. This one scans at seven with 28 syllables written in five lines. The sentiment expressed the firm, and life-long beliefs of this Portland lady:

*Rain, and hail, and sleet and snow
Neither like the other, so
When they melt, however
Lo, see one stream of
water flow-*

Your Sister in the Path
Beatrice Cannady

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Citizen of the Week



Sheriann Hagar-Warren stood before the Portland School Board last summer and convinced them that the district's new middle school be named after a Black woman. Last week, after a study and vote by the students, the school was named after Harriet Tubman.

Mrs. Hagar-Warren is past - chairman of the PPS Area I Advisory Committee, on which she still serves, and is vice-chairman of the PPS Monitoring Committee.

She is Fourth Vice President of the YWCA board, a member of the Executive Committee, the Finance Committee and the Race Relations.

Mrs. Hagar-Warren's main interest is art and poetry. She does poetry, oil painting, pastels, and other forms of art. She also writes short stories and poetry. She sells some art work and would like to publish a book.

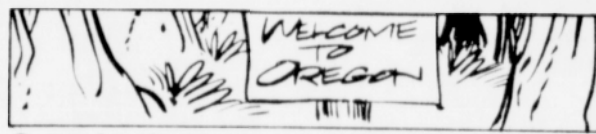
She likes to dance, and also likes to be alone with her thoughts. With her husband, George, she loves to watch her children - Sherri, 11, and Derrick, 6, grow up.

"I am hurting for the world - it is in such bad trouble. Yet we can't do enough to help people in other parts of the world. The whole thing is survival. In a way we are fortunate; when we don't have to fight for survival we can fight for civil rights, decent housing, and other things. For many, once born it is important just to stay alive."

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FROM THE FRONT DOOR

BY TOM BOOTHE

From the front door, I was asked by the parents of some children participating in the Exodus Youth Program, to continue with more articles directed toward young adults here in our community. I have decided to do so.

Children, from the age of 6 to 18 years of age, it is important that you learn all you can. From all that you learn construct a specific "for real" purpose related to who you are, and what you can do, and what you are preparing to do in the future.

Learn that knowledge is primary to purpose. Know who you are, and who you are not, know what you can do, and what you cannot do. Learn that knowledge is also primary to understanding. Learning and knowing something and not understanding when and how to use it is almost as bad as knowing nothing at all.

Children, you are the future. However, the future will be directed and controlled by those of you who have learned the most knowledge and understanding as to the application of that knowledge.

If you learn nothing else, learn that success always come to those who have learned that the key to success is to know and understand that **PURPOSE, PREPARATION, DIRECTION and CONSISTENCY** is the foundation you must lay in order to build a "for real" **FUTURE OF INDEPENDENCE**.

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