

# THE ADVOCATE

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## KLAN PLANNED TO GET RID OF COLORED EDITOR N. A. A. C. P. FIGHS TEXAS WHITE PRIMARY

### N.A.A.C.P. Begins Fight on Texas Primary Law Which Disfranchises Negroes.

Plans Appeal to U. S. Supreme Court in Case Begun in El Paso—All "White Primary" Laws of South Involved in This Case.

New York, N. Y., April 9.—An attack in the courts on the Texas "White Primary" law, which specifically debar blacks from voting in the Democratic primaries, and which will constitute the opening of a general attack upon disfranchisement of colored people in the South, is announced by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue, New York City. Messrs. F. C. Knollenberg and R. H. Channell, of El Paso, have been retained to conduct the case in the Texas courts and with them, in the event of appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court, will be associated Moorfield Storey of Boston, former president of the American Bar Association and James A. Cobb, of Washington, former special assistant to the U. S. Attorney for the District of Columbia.

The present case arises out of the denial to Dr. L. A. Nixon, qualified voter, of the right to participate in the primary election at El Paso. The refusal to permit Dr. Nixon to vote in the primaries is based upon an act passed in May, 1923, by the Texas legislature, reading as follows:

"All qualified voters under the laws and constitution of the State of Texas, who is a bona fide member of the Democratic party, shall be eligible to participate in any Democratic primary election, provided such voter complies with all laws and rules governing party primary elections; however in no event shall a Negro be eligible to participate in a Democratic party primary election held in the State of Texas and should a Negro vote in a Democratic primary election, such ballot shall be void and election officials are herein directed to throw out such ballot and not count the same."

It is contended by the Advancement Association that under the system of one-party dominance in Southern States, where candidates for office are virtually elected in the primaries, to debar any class of voters from the primaries is in effect to disfranchise them. The constitutionality of the Texas statute and of other similar statutes throughout the South is involved in the case.

Decision has already been rendered against Dr. Nixon and the El Paso Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, by the Federal District Court and the case is now being appealed.

A statement on the case issued by James Weldon Johnson, Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, says:

"It is clearly evident that decision in this case will profoundly affect the Negro in America. So long as the Negroes can be deprived of free access to the ballot because of their color, just so long can their economic, legal, political and other rights be disregarded with impunity. Since the Democratic primary constitutes the entire machinery of election to office in most of the Southern States, this case involves the only effective way of striking a blow for the Negro's right to vote. In undertaking a vigorous prosecution of the case known as Nixon vs. Herndon, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People feels it is performing a service not

### LOCAL and FOREIGN NEWS BRIEFS

Among recent callers to The Advocate were Ed Washington, well and popularly known fraternal man. Mr. Washington renewed his subscription to The Advocate; also Rev. J. E. Byrd, who feels he cannot get along without the "old reliable."

Clarence Cameron White announces the orchestration of "Bandanna Sketches," Opus 12, for full orchestra and also "From the Cotton Fields," Op. 18. He also has the same numbers in band arrangement. They can be obtained from Carl Fischer, Inc., Cooper Square, New York, N. Y. Many Portlanders have had the pleasure more than once of having heard the distinguished violinist and composer, Clarence C. White. The numbers are also written for violin and piano.



Bro. J. W. Botts, who will deliver the eulogy, "Our Departed Brothers," Sunday at Bethel church.

**A Correction.** In last week's issue of The Advocate the fashion show and dance adv., sponsored by St. Phillips Guild, stated that the admission would be 50c including checking. It should have read 60c including checking. Readers please take note of the correction.

**The Portland Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People** held a splendid meeting at First A. M. E. Zion church Tuesday evening the 7th. Maurice E. Crumacker, congressman from third congressional district of Oregon, was the principal speaker. He urged the race to work for its own development; stressed constitutional rights and spoke on the constitutional-ity of the Dyer anti-lynching bill. Misses Dorthula Williams and Barbara Hubbard and Master Donald Anderson furnished the music for the occasion. J. A. Ewing, president, presided and presented the speaker; Lee C. Anderson, secretary, urged those who had not to join the organization. A large audience was in attendance.

**Mrs. R. T. Waters** of St. Paul, Minn., a visitor in the city, attended Dahlia Temple meeting Tuesday evening and in a brief talk complimented the Temple on its splendid showing and expressed herself as being highly pleased with all she had seen of the work of the organization. Mrs. Waters will turn out with the Temple Sunday afternoon in its annual memorial celebration.

**Mrs. Bonnie Bogle** was hostess to the Rosebud Study Club Wednesday afternoon at her home on 35th St. S. The meeting included a literary program and several visitors in the city were present for the first time.

**Rev. J. W. Anderson** returned home Saturday from Spokane, Wn. He reports the field in good condition. He is on the job. Rev. Anderson plans to go to Texas soon, thence east in the interest of the Northwest Coast Baptist Association.

alone to the Negro but to all America; inasmuch as the rotten borough system of the South afflicts the entire Nation with shameless violation of the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments to the Federal Constitution.

"As the case will be an expensive one, the N. A. A. C. P. asks those who are interested to help by forwarding contributions, large or small, to J. E. Spingarn, Treasurer of the N. A. A. C. P., 69 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

### The John Reed Children's Colony in Russia

In 1924, fifty children, orphaned by famine and the war, fourteen and fifteen years of age, began the experiment known today as the John Reed Children's Colony, in some old monastery buildings on the plains of middle Volga in Russia. They had been crowded out of the children's homes in the Saratov region, the most desolate of the famine stricken districts.

The local government gave them the buildings and land of the old monastery; the Children's Commission of the Central Government gave them its blessing, the name "John Reed Children's Colony" and \$500.00 worth of tools, horses and teachers' wages. Anna Louise Strong was asked to become its "guardian" and help them build a model self supporting farm school "on the American style."

From Dr. Strong we learned the following:

Ten boys moved out to the monastery in November with a few instructors, and began making beds and tables and benches from the wood of a broken house which they had permission to demolish. Old condensed milk cans from the famine-feeding days were hammered in their primitive work shop into cups and bowls and saucers—the only tableware they had for the first year. In December came fifteen more children, including some girls and a matron. They made mattresses filled with straw; they began their task of cooking and sewing and cleaning for the colony. Through the winter one group of boys ran a little mill and secured from it three months' bread for the colony; others made shoes with a few tools which I managed to buy for them; others worked in our carpenter shop making beds and tables.

By planting time there were fifty children in the colony. The older boys moved out to the fields to camp under a straw shelter while they ploughed the soil with their home made ploughs and planted it with free seed from the government. That harvest, when it arrived, was enough to feed 75 children for an entire year.

Nearly was a better farming district and a year later the government gave them an old estate that had been confiscated during the revolution. Over 1000 acres of land, buildings enough for 300 children, a giant mill—buildings worth two or three hundred thousand dollars. And here they are making a wonderful experiment.

There are now 150 children; young boys keepers, millers, carpenters, shoemakers, among the boys and housekeepers, dressmakers among the girls. They have their own little library and theatre, hopelessly crude but developing. And they have an English teacher, sent to them by the Quaker Relief Association.

The government supplies food and teachers' wages but equipment is sadly lacking and Dr. Strong is now in the United States raising money for livestock, tools and much-needed machinery.

### Voices Needed for "Rosaria"

Many colored persons will have a chance to appear in "Rosaria," the great pageant telling the story of the rose, which will be performed on Multnomah field every night, June 15 to 20. A great stage 200 feet wide will be built there for the pageant and 5000 persons will appear in it. Colored folks are needed to appear in Persian, Egyptian and Grecian scenes and in the final scene.

The most beautiful woman in Portland is wanted to be queen of the festival. In the final scene of the pageant representative groups of all nations will pay homage to her.

Anyone who wants to have a part should go between 8:30 and 5:30 any day soon to room 604, Oregon building, Fifth and Oak streets.

The Denver Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People which will convene June 23-27 has been invited by Colorado Springs to visit that city and view the scenery including The Garden of the Gods. This outing will consume a day and will take place on the 27th.

**Subscribes to Magazine Because of Its Fairness to Race.**—Lucius Frank Bell of Washington, D. C., announces through the N. A. A. C. P. that he had sent his subscription to "The Forum" because of that periodical's friendly attitude towards colored people. "This alone," he wrote, "has caused me to become a yearly subscriber to 'The Forum.'"

### "Arrow Tips"

(By Kits Reid)

Here is a bit of poetry from the "Messenger," a monthly magazine published by the Western Union Telegraph Company for its messengers. This is supposed to be an essay on "The Frog," written by a ten-year-old Swedish youngster:

"What a wonderful bird the frog are,  
When he hop, he fly, almost,  
When he stand, he sit, almost,  
Ain't got no sense, hardly,  
Ain't got no tail, hardly, either,  
So when he stand, he sit on what he ain't got, almost."

According to a recent study of the purchasing power of the dollar which is part of my wages, made by the Bureau of Municipal Research of Philadelphia, I spend 44.1 cents for things to eat, 13.9 cents for clothes to wear, 14.1 cents for a roof over my head, 5.1 cents of it for light to read and work by and for fire to warm my bones, 1 cent goes to educate me and for reading material and the remaining 21.8 cents I spend for insurance, health, carfare, taxes, etc. Food, clothing and shelter absorb 72.1 cents. It is any wonder that the greatest cause of unemployment among the workers is the fear of penniless old age? Out of the whole dollar 3 cents can be spent for insurance and unless this is in the form of an endowment policy, one must die in order to realize on it.

Such a lot of serious things to write about this week. Here is an item that ought to make every housewife sit up and take notice: The city of Winnipeg, up to the north, owns and operates its own electric light and power plant. It charges the Winnipeg housewife 2½ cents per kilowatt hour as against about 8 cents which the Portland housewife pays. After paying all expenses for operation and upkeep, the plant paid into Winnipeg's treasury \$50,000 last year. In addition to service at cost, the city installs electric ranges free. How's that for municipal ownership?

A law which was passed at the last session of the legislature has attracted much less attention than it deserves. If enforced (notice the if, please) it will put a stop to the very embarrassing exhibitions which suburban residents have had thrust upon them by the auto "spooners" that infest the roadsides in the quiet outside districts. The law is short and reads as follows:

"Any person who shall be guilty of any violent, riotous or disorderly conduct, or any obscene, immoral, indecent, lewd or lascivious act, or who shall use any profane, abusive or obscene language upon any grounds used or kept as a watering place, or place of public resort, or near or upon any public highway or who shall be guilty of any such conduct, or act, or use any such language in any house or building upon such grounds shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished by a fine not exceeding \$500.00, or by imprisonment not to exceed 6 months, or by both such fine and imprisonment."

Let us hope that all decent citizens will help to enforce this law and thus help to put a stop to the disgraceful experiences which many of us who live in out-of-the-way places have been forced to endure.

Here is the office cat again—this time scratching and spitting about the recent appointment of Thomas F. Woodlock to be a member of the Interstate Commerce Commission. What is the matter with President Coolidge? Why does he do such contrary things? After being advised twice that the senate would not confirm the appointment, he just goes and prepares the way for another spanking by appointing Woodlock anyhow. I should think the Warren walloping would still be stinging. This man Woodlock was formerly editor of the Wall Street Journal and after that press agent for big interests and along comes this bad boy Cal and says to him, "Tommy, you know just what Wall Street wants done with the railroad rates. I'm going to put you on my Interstate Commerce Commission. Of course I know the South doesn't want you—it wants representation for the South. The West doesn't want you because it is afraid you'll be raising railroad rates instead of reducing them. Then, too, there is some question as to whether you can draw any salary until you are confirmed by the senate, but I'm a-thinkin' that by December I'll have a chance to bang some of those boobs into my way of looking at things and they'll be glad to play in my backyard. So, come along—here's your

### Negroes Demand Smith Censure Judge Tiernan

Call Remarks of Court in Sentencing Man "Appeal to Mob and Lynch Law."

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue, made public yesterday a letter addressed to Governor Smith in which the association asked that disciplinary action be taken against Judge J. Harry Tiernan, of Staten Island, who in sentencing a Negro for robbery is alleged to have said that "for the same crime the prisoner would have been burned at the stake in the South."

The letter called "contradictory" Judge Tiernan's position that his remarks could not be interpreted as approving mob rule and insisted that he had shown "his unfitness to sit upon the bench of any court in New York City."

The letter continued:

"It is felt that if the remarks made by Judge Tiernan, which are so palpable an appeal to mob and lynch law, are allowed to go unchallenged Negroes and individuals of other minority groups when on trial in the future may be the victims of gross injustice from judges and juries influenced in this manner."

"We are taking the liberty of urging upon you such action as is possible toward the censuring, disciplining and, if possible, impeachment of Judge Tiernan."

The association also has appealed to the New York Bar Association.—N. Y. Tribune, March 22

Alvin Ingersol, nephew of J. W. Ingersol, is here from Los Angeles to reside.

The public school enrollment in Washington, D. C., includes 22,822 colored pupils.

Petersburg, Va., has a "Ladies Auxiliary of the Colored Cemetery Association."

A. L. Corneal was elected Inner Guard of the Elks Wednesday night, to succeed J. Rhoades, who resigned.

Secretary of Commerce Herbert Hoover says, "The recruiting ground for the future leaders of the United States will be on the farms rather than in the factories."

George Mullen, 318 E. 41st St., returned Tuesday from a two weeks' trip to points east and south. Mr. Mullen included Memphis, Tenn., where he spent several days with his mother, Mrs. Sallie Hunt, 698 Wright St. While there he turned out with the K. of P. lodge of which he makes glowing reports. Four hundred uniformed Knights marched in the parade and the "turnout" of the lodge was held at Sanctified Temple which has a seating capacity of 2000. The Temple was filled on this occasion. Mr. Mullen visited many of his old time friends and was greatly impressed with the progress in business and other lines the colored people of Memphis are making. As far as Chicago he was accompanied by Herman Hill who stopped off in that city to visit friends.

### Program of the P.W.M.B. Club

The next program of the Portland Women's Mutual Benefit Club will be held Monday, April 20, room "F" public library, at 8:30 P. M. The program will be as follows: Roll, answer by quotations from race authors; Current events, (a) local, (b) statewide, (c) national; Paper, "W. E. B. DuBois" and discussion; Paper, "Colebridge Taylor" and discussion; Book Review, "Souls of Black Folk" and discussion. Members and non-members of the club will take part on the program, names announced in next issue. Public welcome.

Charles Redd, 269 Wheeler, is on the sick list this week.

appointment."

Now just what do you think of that for presidential logic?

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### Child Musical Marvel Had Never Seen Piano

(Columbian Press Bureau)

New York, April 2.—Clifford D. Mallory (white), President of the Mallory Steamship Line, who returned from Nassau last week aboard the Munson liner Munargo with Mrs. Mallory, said they had taken a piano to an eleven-year-old Negro girl at French Creek, on Andros island, and that the girl, who had never seen a piano before in her life, sat down and played with remarkable ability. Mr. Mallory and friends discovered the girl playing with a keyboard which she had in some way obtained. They returned to Nassau, purchased a piano and took it to the Negro child prodigy.



Bro. O. S. Thomas, who will recite "Thanatopsis" at the Elks Memorial services Sunday.

**Thirty Years Doorkeeper.**—Edward Savoy, who has been doorkeeper for the secretary of state in the U. S. capital at Washington for 30 years, is threatened with retirement by the civil service board, but Vice President Dawes declares it shall not be done, and has put into force a new rule which will save Savoy his job.

Edward Morgan, who blows a "mean" trombone in the Webb's orchestra, was in the city a few days last week. Mr. Morgan returned to Seattle Monday where he will again assist in furnishing music for the Steamer Alexander.

Miss Gladys Anderson left Wednesday for Seattle, Wn., where she has accepted a position as stenographer in an office.

**Born to Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Morrow,** 695 Kearney St., a baby girl, Saturday, April 4, 1 A. M. Mother and infant doing finely. Dr. Jeanette Matitsky in charge. The baby has been named Lucy Ann.

Approximately 80 per cent of all high schools in the United States are located either in the open country or in villages having less than 2500 inhabitants.

Those who are interested in the success of Wilberforce University are pleased with the appointment of Editor Harry C. Smith of the Cleveland Gazette to the board of trustees.

A. A. Jones, 271 Wheeler St., received the sad intelligence of the death of an aunt, Mrs. Lottie Hayes, in Kansas City, Mo., Saturday, April 4th.

For Rent, furnished restaurant. Apply 108 N. 9th St.—Adv.

### Klan Planned to "Get Rid of Negro" Newspaper Publisher in Houston, Texas.

Wanted to "Cut Him in Pieces" and Carry Him Off Piecemeal.

New York, April 10.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue, has received reports from Houston, Texas, indicating that it was at one time the plan of the local Ku Klux Klan to lure a Negro newspaper publisher into a doctor's office, cut him in small pieces and carry the remains off, each Klansman taking a small part of the body.

Testimony to this effect was given in a suit involving the Klan, according to an account published in the Houston, Texas, Post-Dispatch of March 20. George B. Kimbro Jr., a former high official of the Klan is reported to have testified as follows:

"McCall was obsessed with an idea of getting rid of a newspaper publisher by the name of Richardson and at times suggested to me plans to get rid of him. One fellow suggested that we get the Negro up in a doctor's office and cut him to pieces and then each Klansman carry down a piece of him and destroy it. McCall jumped at the idea." Kimbro said he would not be positive who suggested the scheme.

Kimbro then testified concerning intentions of an alleged Klan grand jury at Wharton to "get rid of" Richardson. The grand jury was to issue a subpoena to Richardson on the pretext of questioning him about something published in his paper, Kimbro declared. Richardson was to be brought to Wharton in the hands of a sheriff. Two men, known as "crack shots," were to be placed at secret points near the court house, armed with rifles. The sheriff was to bring Richardson across the court house lawn and at a given signal step aside and permit the rifle-men to shoot down Richardson.

Mr. C. F. Richardson is publisher of the Houston Informer, a colored weekly.

### Not All Jazz

Washington, D. C., April 10.—A musical evening, designated to demonstrate that American music is not all jazz will be a feature of the Sixth Quinquennial Convention of the International Council of Women, which will be in session here from May 4 to May 14, 1925. American Negroes and Indians will join with American composers and artists of distinction in a notable program.

**Mrs. Clara Bell,** Dr. Hugh A. Bell, her son, and Rev. H. Leo Johnstone, were the dinner guests of Editor and Mrs. E. D. Cannady Sunday at their home in Irvington. Place cards and other decorations announced the nearness of Easter.

**Mrs. L. K. Weeks** is the house guest for several weeks of Mrs. E. L. Jamison, 868 Garfield Ave., prior to her departure May 1st for California and thence to Washington, D. C. and eastern cities. Mrs. Weeks plans to be gone a year before returning to her home in Portland.

The associate editor of The Advocate spoke before a group of young and elderly people at Arleta Presbyterian church Sunday evening. She discussed local problems as result of racial antipathy.

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