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LABOR DEPT. OUSTS ANTI-NEGRO PROPOGANDIST

ROLAND HAYES HAS SAILED FOR EUROPE

Roland Hayes Gets Spingarn Medal Just Before Sailing for Europe.

Nominations for Next Award Should Be Made at Once

(By N. A. A. C. P. Press)

New York, N. Y., April 10.—Roland Hayes, world famous tenor, to whom the 1924 Spingarn Medal was awarded during his absence in Europe last Spring, received it on board the Cunard Steamship Aquitania just before he sailed for Europe on Tuesday afternoon, April 7. The Medal was presented to Mr. Hayes before an enthusiastic audience of about 100 friends, by Walter Damrosch, conductor of the New York Symphony Orchestra who declared he knew of few singers of the great race who could sing songs of more emotion than Mr. Hayes.

In presenting the medal, Mr. Damrosch said, in part:

"Roland Hayes is to me a striking proof of the fact that whether white or black we are all God's children, and I herewith take pleasure in handing him the famous Spingarn Medal, which is awarded only to those members of the colored race who have achieved real distinction."

In response, Roland Hayes said: "It is now nearly twenty years since I entered upon my artistic career. I did it because I had the conviction that my talent was the gift of an Infinite Mind and that it had been entrusted to me for a divine purpose, and that purpose was that the various racial groups that made up the human family should be served with the highest expression of that gift."

"Recognizing that fact I have striven without thought of honor, save that honor which comes by achievement. "By this, dear friends, you will understand what a tremendous surprise it was to me when I learned that the Spingarn Medal Award Committee of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People had recognized my achievements to be worthy of this most significant honor. Indeed, it is a great honor, and yet not any part of that honor can I accept, except with the understanding that the honor which the award carries with it includes all of the colored people of these United States and the world so far as my talent has been recognized, because that which you recognize of merit in my work is that which you yourselves have helped to bring into a vivid, conscious existence, through me, a willing instrument."

Nominations for the 1925 award of the Spingarn Medal to be presented at the N. A. A. C. P. Annual Conference in Denver in June, should be sent at once to Bishop John Hurst, Chairman of the Spingarn Medal Award Committee, at 69 Fifth Avenue, New York City. Such nominations should specify the achievement for which the award is asked and should give a short life-history, with dates, of the candidate nominated for the honor.

Bishop Hurst authorizes the announcement that unless such nominations are sent in at once there is danger they will arrive too late for consideration by the Committee.

The Liberty Building and Loan Association of Los Angeles recently celebrated its first anniversary.

Mrs. Clifford McClain is here from Seattle visiting her mother, Mrs. Ollie Henderson on Union Ave., and other relatives and friends.

LOCAL and FOREIGN NEWS BRIEFS

Mr. and Mrs. George Davison have moved from 175 Third St. North, to 208 1/2 Sheridan St.

Mrs. J. J. Handsaker motored down from Salem Monday to conduct a funeral. She spent a part of the time visiting amongst her friends, and returned home late in the afternoon. The Advocate staff was among those who had the pleasure of a call from Mrs. Handsaker.

Among our very pleasant callers to The Advocate this week was William Webb. Mr. Webb is looking and feeling fine and radiates as he always does, sunshine and cheer.

The West Virginia Supreme Court recently barred the "Birth of a Nation" photoplay which was shown several years ago in this city. The play had been widely advertised and was to be shown in Charleston from April 1 to 4. A delegation from the N. A. A. C. P. called on the Mayor of the city and pointed out that if the film showed in the state it would be in violation of a special law which colored people had sponsored and which passed the 1919 legislature of that state. T. G. Nutter, president of the Charleston Branch, informed the Mayor that he had power to prevent the showing under that statute as well as by exercise of the police power of the city. Mayor Wertz after consultation with the City Solicitor, and after viewing the pictures which he denounced, notified the theatre management that the "Birth of a Nation" should not be shown and that if attempted were made to show it, he would confiscate the film and arrest the manager and all the employees of the theatre, also any owner of the film who might be in Charleston. Through regular proceedings the matter reached the Supreme Court and that tribunal's decision is as above stated.

Mrs. Yates Howard is improving at her home on 13th street, following a recent operation.

Mrs. A. Latty, of Charleston, Wash., is here visiting her sister, Mrs. J. D. Yancey, 341 Graham Ave., for ten days. Mrs. Latty was accompanied by her sister-in-law, Miss J. M. Latty, and arrived Saturday evening of last week.

S. E. Hill, 283 Larrabee St., prominent member of Mt. Olivet Baptist church, left Tuesday night for Houston, Texas, to visit his mother, sister, brother and other relatives and friends. Mr. Hill plans to be gone about a month and will take a run over to San Angelo, while in the state, to look after some oil property which he owns there.

An American Negro Labor Congress. Word has been received here that an American Negro Labor Congress will be held sometime during the summer in Chicago, Ill., composed of delegates from the various Negro Labor Unions, mixed unions (black and white), delegates from groups of unorganized workers in the factories, shops, etc., from organizations of Negro agricultural workers, and individuals of both races well known for their championship of the cause of the Negro working class. Questions to be considered at the conference include: Racial prejudice, jim-crowism, equal pay for white and black workers, discrimination in Labor Unions, lynching, and a United American working class. Its motto is: "The future of the world is in the hand of the working class, black and white." The date of the congress will be announced later.

W. D. Allen and family were the dinner guests Sunday of Mrs. Pugh, on Larrabee Street.

The Turkey Dinner given at Bethel church Thursday of last week, was a decided success from every standpoint.

Dick Brown of Seattle, is in the city on business.

Mrs. H. C. Baker and daughter, Miss Golden Baker, spent Easter vacation in Seattle and Tacoma with friends.

Freta Shaw is receiving congratulations from those who heard the cantata rendered at St. Philip's Mission Friday evening, the 11th, which she directed.

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

Springfield Colored Girl Scouts Win Contest With Negro National Anthem.

New York, N. Y., April 10.—The only colored troop of girl scouts in Springfield, Mass., where there are 1,400 girl scouts altogether, recently won the elocution contest against 12 other troops. The colored girls sang James Weldon Johnson's Negro National Anthem, set to music by his brother, J. Rosamond Johnson.

Miss Edna P. Randolph writes that not only did the colored girl scout troop win the song contest, but they were also the only troop to be in perfect uniform.

New Jersey Leader Dies

(Columbian Press Bureau)
Jersey City, April 11.—Dr. George E. Cannon, Negro physician and a national leader of the Republican members of his race, who delivered a speech seconding the nomination of President Calvin Coolidge at the Cleveland Convention last spring, died Monday morning at his home, 354 Pacific Avenue, in this city, at the age of 56. His death was due to injuries received a week ago when he fell on alighting from a bus near his residence, fracturing several ribs and receiving a concussion of the brain. He rallied for a time following the accident, but sank rapidly after midnight Sunday. He leaves a wife, a son, George Cannon, and a daughter, Miss Gladys Cannon, his mother and four sisters, one of whom is Miss Etta Cannon, Secretary of the Henry Snyder Junior High School in this city.

Washington Teacher Wins Sorbonne Doctorate

(Columbian Press Bureau)
Washington, D. C., April 13.—Mrs. Anna J. Cooper, former principal of the old M Street, now Dunbar, High School, arrived here yesterday after receiving her doctorate at the Sorbonne in Paris, March 23. Mrs. Cooper presented a thesis, "L'Attitude de la France a L'Egard de L'esclavage." In her defense of the thesis she worked out the themes "Legislative Measures Concerning Slavery, 1787-1850," and "The Ideas of Equality and the Democratic Movement."

Colored Typist Marvel Wins Diamond Medal

(Columbian Press Bureau)
Washington, D. C., April 13.—At a general assembly of the faculty and students of Dunbar High School, held last Monday morning, Cortez W. Peters was awarded the Underwood diamond medal emblem for accuracy and speed in a typing test given at the Washington office of the Underwood Typewriter Company on March 26. Mr. Peters is a graduate of the Department of Business Practice of Dunbar High School, and in the test maintained a net speed of one hundred nine five-stroke words a minute for thirty minutes, the requirement to qualify being only one hundred words a minute. The medal is 20-K white gold, platinum-plate, with alternating diamonds and emeralds, and crown-set. Mr. G. W. Ward, assistant manager of the Washington office of the Underwood Typewriter Company and the students friend, presented the award and stated that Mr. Peters was the first student, and the only person in the District of Columbia ever to win it.

Phone Broadway 5807 or call at 312 Macley Bldg. if you wish to subscribe for The Advocate.

Old Denver Church Is Totally Destroyed by Noonday Blaze.

Hampered by Meager Water Pressure, Firemen Are Unable to Save Edifice at Washington and 23d, and Adjacent Buildings Narrowly Escape.

Denver, Colo., April 11.—Fire destroyed the Shorter A. M. E. church, Twenty-third and Washington streets, one of the oldest church buildings in Denver, early Thursday afternoon, April 9.

Handicapped by lack of water pressure, firemen were able to make little headway against the flames, which virtually enveloped the roof of the structure before the fire department arrived. The fire was discovered in the choir loft of the church by Janitor Hall shortly after 12:30 o'clock. The flames spread to the roof. When the firemen arrived, the flames were shooting high into the air and a pall of smoke was drifting south over the city.

The building and site were valued at \$55,000. The building was considered a total loss. Officials of the church said the loss was partially covered by insurance, only having \$11,500 on building, pipe organ and fixtures.

The Associate Editor of The Advocate is in receipt of an original letter written by the late Coleridge Taylor, noted English composer, to Theodore Spiering of New York City, noted musician and orchestra leader, in the year 1907. The letter was a gift from the distinguished musician to Mrs. Cannady in fulfillment of a promise made her while he was in the city recently. Mrs. Cannady prizes the letter highly among her autographs and says it will occupy a conspicuous place in her private library of race literature.

Black Men Complete Vital War-Time Chemical Job as Deadly Gases Drive Men of White Race Out.

(Preston News Service)
Baltimore, Md., April 16.—It is said that open confession is good for the soul and surely leading chemical experts of the country should feel much better now since they have gotten off their chests something about the "superiority" of Negroes.

At a meeting of chemists held here last week, Dr. H. J. Killefer of New York, told the members of the American Chemical Society how Negroes perfected experiments with tetra-nitro-aniline after NORDIC blondes and Jewish chemists had keeled over in a laboratory at Boundrock, N. J.

Tetra-nitroaniline, igniting 100 times faster than TNT, was sought by the Government during the war. In a necessary intermediate process, there results a deadly poison. Its fumes enter the skin, and kill the red corpuscles, causing suffocation. Group after group of white men were tried and found unable to withstand the action of the fumes, finally Negroes were ordered to make the experiments, and were found to be able to withstand the poisons.

It is said that the participants in the experiments were graded as to complexion to determine if the dark-skinned men could withstand the deadly fumes, and they did. It is said that the lightest skinned keeled over in a week, and were resuscitated with difficulty. It was found that the dark-skinned Negroes withstood the fumes and enabled the chemists to complete the experiments, but the armistice, it is said, was signed before much of the explosive could be used.

Fashion Show and Dance Brilliant Affair

Although many of the models scheduled to appear in the St. Phillip's Guild Fashion Show failed to show up, those who did, made a very brilliant showing and met with the hearty approval of the large and appreciative audience which gathered at Fraternal hall Monday evening. Following the parade of the manikins, dancing was engaged in until twelve o'clock. Music was furnished by Brock's Harmony Spillers. A very enjoyable time was had by all.

Mesdames R. T. Waters and Mary Ashford were the guests of Mrs. E. D. Cannady on an automobile sight-seeing trip over Terwilliger Blvd., on Sunday afternoon. The ladies had refreshments upon their return to the city at Richardson's Confectionery.

Police reserves had to be called to protect a colored church and its congregation from being stoned by white citizens who objected to the church in the community, March 29th, in Baltimore, Md., according to a press report from that city.

Appointed to Liberia

(Columbian Press Bureau)
Washington, D. C., April 13.—Mr. Clifton R. Wharton, a colored attorney of Boston, has been appointed to the Diplomatic Service as Secretary of the United States Legation at Monrovia, Liberia. Mr. Wharton took the examination for the Foreign Service under the new reform act of 1924. Of the 150 who took the examination only 20 passed, and Mr. Wharton was one of those. He has been connected with the State Department here for several months and although a native of Maryland is a product of the Boston schools.

Searchlight Editor Sues Enterprise

S. P. De Bow, editor and publisher of the Searchlight, a local weekly newspaper, through his attorney, E. R. Penland, filed a suit Monday against the Seattle Enterprise Publishing Co., asking that a receiver be appointed and an accounting of the business be ordered. De Bow alleges that he bought from W. E. Mitchell for \$100 an interest in the Seattle Enterprise Publishing Co., and the company refuses to give him an accounting of its business.

League of Nations and Africa

Washington, D. C., April 13.—Abyssinia has notified the League of Nations that she will participate in the conference for control of the international traffic to arms, opening in Geneva, Switzerland, shortly, and has submitted a memorandum explaining why she needs arms and ammunition. Coincident with the action taken by the Abyssinians, the Rehoboth tribesmen of southwest Africa have petitioned the League to make their country a free and independent state. This district is under the mandate of the Union of South Africa.

Garner Grayson, for nine years a trustee of Bethel A. M. E. church, resigned at a recent meeting of the board. Mr. Ford was elected his successor.

Million Dollars Await Missing Colored Woman

Kansas City, Mo., April 10.—(By A. N. P.)—So far, Emma Johnson, 37, has not made her appearance to claim a fortune of \$750,000 in Oklahoma oil lands. A white attorney of Oklahoma was in the city this week seeking only to hand Emma three quarters of a million dollars. The woman is said to have married an Indian in Oklahoma and later to have left him. When he died some years ago, half of his acres went to the tribe and half was held in trust for his wife. Oil has since been found and Emma is now nearly a millionaire—if she only knew it. All kinds of plumbing work and trouble shooting. Call SEllwood 1021.

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"Arrow Tips"

(By Kits Reid)

Spring with all her magic is here. The fruit trees are loaded with blossoms and are sending out their fragrance to the harmony of the bees gathering their harvest of honey. For years, from the office window, I have watched the elm trees with their long branches waving in the breeze like fairy fingers shrouded in lacy green, and as the color deepens, the trees seem to say: "Hope on—work and winter, life and love are borne into happiness."

Let's talk about Spring and the robins—so much pleasanter than the bad breaks of the president. Right outside the living room window is a climbing rose and in its branches a robin has built its nest for the past five years. I don't know, of course, whether it is the same robin, but the nest has been there and each year is the home of a brood and sometimes of two broods of baby robins. This year, Mollie Robin cleaned house and put in new floor and new wall coverings of soft feathers. Well, old dear, I'm glad to be back. I'm sure it was the same robin we had last year, because she never budged when I shoved up the window with a noisy bang and only turned her pert little head when the curtain slipped and went up to the top with a noisy rush. The whole human household is interested in the bird housekeeping going on in the rose vine. I'll keep you all advised as to the progress of the nesting.

I climbed up on the window ledge today and saw four beautiful blue eggs that Molly Robin was hovering, springing magic in their turquoise coloring!

We have a trained nurse in our house and of course she bosses every ache and pain any of us dares to have. But once in awhile we "put it over." The other day I was out in the kitchen with father getting supper ready and just as she came in father gave a rousing sneeze.

"There," said she, "you've been out without your overcoat on and have taken cold and now you'll have the grip." She had hardly finished her scolding when I followed suit by nearly sneezing my head off.

"Oh dear," she wailed, "and you have been down town in all this rain without your rubbers on, and you'll have sore throat again."

Her voice and attitude indicated a penitential offense on my part.

"Wrong diagnosis, my dear trained nurse. I have only spilled the pepper box."

The world seems very flat and uneventful just now. Helen Maria hasn't announced any new plans for reforming the senate for over a week. I wonder if he's sick or something? But I am wondering whether there is any significance in the affection of the standpatters for Stanfield, Oregon's senator. I don't like the company he keeps, Butler, McLean, Moses, Shortridge, Smoot, Wadsworth, et al. He seems to be a favorite of Helen Maria too. It is significant, too painfully significant, Mr. Stanfield!

Here is the latest wrinkle in the Coolidge program of economy: During the summer vacation, five buckwheat cakes instead of six shall be the regular portion at White House breakfasts. A saving of at least \$1.32 a year in the buckwheat budget. Great is New England economy!

At the Civic League luncheon last Saturday Dean Collins gave the Social Workers a truly Mark Twain diagnosis. You remember how disgusted Mark Twain used to be when a careless public would read only humor in his work instead of the philosophy which was there and which the discriminating reader always found and for which we loved Mark Twain? So it was with Dean Collins' humor—it served only as a cover for the real significant philosophical utterances. He made them feel that they were simply dealing with the waste of our economic system and making a very poor job of the salvage process at that. He showed how the industrial system goes on piling up the scrap heap and that social work and social workers are simply devices of the system with which the moral conscience is being drugged. It was a rare treat for those who understood him.

Please pay your subscription to The Advocate and avoid missing an issue of the paper.

Department of Labor Dismissing Dr. Plecker for using U. S. Postal Frank to Disseminate Anti-Negro Propaganda Upon Complaint of N.A.A.C.P.

New York, N. Y., April 10. The U. S. Department of Labor has dismissed from its service Dr. A. W. Plecker of Richmond, Va., concerning whose anti-Negro pamphlets distributed at the expense of the government, complaint was made to Washington by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The N.A.A.C.P. has received a letter from Arthur E. Cook, Assistant to the Secretary of Labor, confirming the dismissal.

The Association made public a letter to Secretary of Labor James J. Davis, demanding the dismissal of Dr. W. A. Plecker of Richmond, Virginia, from the Labor Department's staff, on the ground that he had used the Labor Department's privilege of free mailing, to distribute "a pamphlet Eugenics in Relation to the United States and the Law on Racial Integrity," which contains the most insulting and virulent attack upon the colored people of the United States that could be imagined.

The letter cites the following quotations from Dr. Plecker's 32-page pamphlet in support of the demand for his dismissal:

"The mental and moral characteristics of a black man cannot even under the best environments and educational advantages become the same as those of a white man."

"Let us turn a deaf ear to those who would interpret Christian brotherhood to mean racial equality."

"Not only do the most enlightened modern authorities recognize Negro inferiority and the danger of amalgamation, but leading Americans in the past also until the issue was confused by being thrown into politics, saw clearly the possibility of disaster to our institutions and culture."

"The mongrels are superior in mental power to the lower race. They are more cunning and more capable, but they lack the creative power of the higher race, and cannot sustain a lasting civilization that will rank with the best of the world."

Speaking of the advocates of birth control, Dr. Plecker is quoted as saying:

"They are failing utterly, and will always fail to reach the uneducated, the feeble-minded, the morons, the Negroes, criminals and undesirables, who do not read and hear, and if they did, would not have foresight, self-denial or fortitude to practice the methods advocated."

Commenting upon Dr. Plecker's pamphlet sent out under U. S. Labor Department franking privilege, the Advancement Association's letter to Secretary Davis says:

"Dr. Plecker is an avowed anti-Negro propagandist who is continually expressing his views in the public prints and on the platform. What he has to say through these two mediums is insulting to all colored American citizens, but when as an official of the United States Department of Labor he sends this matter out under government frank and at the expense of the common tax-payers, his actions become a public outrage."

"Dr. Plecker has used his official position to disseminate propaganda of insult and injury to a large class of American citizens and in so doing has used the government franking privilege for the distribution of matter entirely unofficial. Therefore, we, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, voicing the united sentiment of the Negro citizens of America, respectfully place before you their demand for the summary dismissal of Dr. Plecker from the federal service."

"We are sending a copy of this letter to President Coolidge."

U. S. Citizens, white and colored, throughout the United States are being urged to protest to the Labor Department against the retention of Dr. Plecker.

English Clergyman to Speak on Peace

Many Portland people are interested in the coming of Dr. Leyton Richards, of England, one of the foremost workers of peace in the world. He spends May 1st to 5th in Portland and we hope next week to give his schedule. He is one of many men working for better relations among people of all creeds, races and nations.

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