

THREAT'N PICKENS' LIFE

THE ADVOCATE

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IN TWO SECTIONS

PORTLAND, OREGON

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1931

SECTION ONE

PRICE FIVE CENTS

SLAYS COP, JANITOR FREED BY GRAND JURY

RICH WHITE WOMAN LEAVES \$15,000 TO MAID

PANEL REFUSES TO INDICT ON DEFENSE PLEA

ATTORNEYS OFFER SERVICES GRATIS

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 10.—After five week in the Toms, charged with slaying a white man, who, aided by a gang of rowdies, attacked him on January 17, Stephen Staton, 25, found himself a free man last Wednesday when the Grand Jury refused to hand down a murder indictment against him.

Yesterday Staton prepared to leave the city, after hearing of numerous death threats made by friends of the thugs whom he bested single-handed. He was charged with the death of John Donnelly, 25, a former policeman, 551 West 132d street.

Donnelly was stabbed through the heart with an army bayonet on the head of a gun when Staton was attacked at 600 West 125th street, where he was employed as janitor.

Staton was sweeping the hallway of the building where he was employed when his broom accidentally knocked against the door of the Patrick S. Dowd Democratic Association, which is housed in the building. Twelve whites, who had just returned from the association's dance downtown, began to abuse him.

Fearing trouble, Staton retreated to the office of the superintendent, where he slept. When he locked the door the whites followed him and demanded entrance. They answered his refusal by smashing the glass, panels and the door.

Meets Charge of Foes

The janitor vigorously wielded a baseball bat until his club was broken on one rowdy's head. The attackers broke the rear windows and attempted entrance. Donnelly headed the group. He was rewarded with a thrust in the heart.

When Staton surrendered, the superintendent, Ellis B. Frazier, 106 West 128th street, came to his defense. Frazier revealed that thugs had tried to intimidate him several time because of his responsible position in a "white neighborhood," and stated that threats had been made against Staton after his arrest.

Arrest Unwarranted.

Charles S. Heffer, white attorney, 70 West Fortieth street, offered the defendant free legal service. His associate in the case was William T. Andrews, 200 West 135th street, special counsel for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

George Sommers, of Boston, Pullman porter, accompanied the Chicago Civic Opera Company to Portland Thursday.

DEICH ORGANIZES MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP LEAGUE BRANCH

At the call of its president, I. H. Payne, and secretary, Mrs. Lillian Lay, a meeting of a branch of the Municipal Ownership League was



Ex-Judge Richard Deich, who addressed a meeting at the home of I. H. Payne, 194 Cherry street, Wednesday night on Municipal Ownership.

held at the home of the president, 194 Cherry street, Wednesday evening. An interesting and informing meeting was reported by many who attended. The principal address was delivered by ex-Judge Richard Deich, and others who spoke were ex-Senator A. W. Orton and Attorney John Jeffries. This league is just one of the many branches of the Municipal Ownership League, of which Commissioner Clyde is the moving spirit. Mr. Payne announces that there will be additional meetings held monthly.

GRAND BALL

FOUR ORCHESTRAS TO PLAY AT N.A.A.C.P. DANCE IN HARLEM

New York, Mar. 6.—With prominent New Yorkers of both races as table holders and admissions rapidly being sold, the Annual Spring Dance at the Savoy ball room, of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People promises to be the outstanding event of the season.

No less than four famous orchestras will furnish music for the affair, including Cab Calloway's Cotton Club orchestra, the Grand Central Red Caps orchestra under the direction of Russ Wooding, and both of the Savoy ball room orchestras.

PEN USED BY HOOVER PRESENTED TO TEACHER

Washington, March 2.—The pen with which President Hoover last Wednesday signed the bill providing for a care not exceeding 3 cents for school children in the District of Columbia has been presented to James C. Wright, a teacher in the Cardozo High School, who is credited with originating the movement for reduced fare for school children.

Reopen Fight To Oust E.R., Wilson FREES MURDERS

DR. COLEMAN TO ADDRESS FORUM

AUTHORITY ON INTERNATIONAL AND INTERRACIAL RELATIONS

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

Dr. Norman F. Coleman, president of Reed College, Portland, has accepted the invitation of the local N. A. A. C. P. to share with the members and friends of the organization, his observations and opinions with regard to race relations in an address on "Race Relations at Home and Abroad." Dr. Coleman has traveled extensively, making special studies in this field, and is recognized as one of the most brilliant thinkers and educators in America. He will speak at the regular meeting of the association to be held at the Williams Avenue Y. W. C. A. next Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock.

The association has secured employment for the following persons: Miss Alice Wilson, in the employ of the manager of a local department store; Charles (Chuck) Williams, in the rug department of the same store, and Effie Lee as special maid.

A successful protest against the showing of "The Birth of a Nation" film was made by Virgil E. Keene, chairman executive board, and J. L. Caston, chairman publicity committee, in behalf of the association before the city council, and after Dr. Caston's argument, upon motion of Commissioner Clyde, the petition of the Triangle Film Co. to show it was denied.

Reports on all of the activities and a specially arranged musical program will make Sunday's meeting, in addition to Dr. Coleman's address, a notable event. C. E. Irey is president and Mrs. C. L. Ingersoll secretary of the local branch.

Dr. DeNorval Unthank is chairman of the Program Committee of the Portland Branch.

LYNCH WHITE MEN

IN ALABAMA WHITE TENANT FARMER KILLED FOR RESISTING DEMANDS OF PLANTER AND IN MISS. FOR SHOOTING LANDLORD.

DOTHAN, Ala., Mar. 10.—What seems to be a lynching occurred here this week. A white tenant farmer who refused to yield to certain working demands of his boss was shot and killed Monday night by six masked men who had gone to his home with the intention of flogging him.

CLARKSBURG, Miss., Mar. 8.—George Spann, tenant farmer, who shot and severely wounded his landlord, Charles O'Neal, because of forced labor, was killed Saturday by a mob which tracked him with bloodhounds.

Holman Crawford, who won a name for himself as a golfer in Portland, has had official recognition from the University of Southern California, where he is majoring in medicine. Young Crawford has been commissioned to organize a college golf club.

FORMER PORTLANDER SUCCUMBS IN SOUTH HEAD OPERATION PROVES FATAL

W. G. Crawford died at his home in Los Angeles last Sunday night, according to information contained in a telegram to Elmer Flowers from his wife, Mrs. Thelma Crawford-Flowers, who was summoned to her father's bedside last week. Mr. Crawford was ill only a week following an operation on his head for the removal of caruncles. Blood poison and other complications set in and he succumbed. Mr. and Mrs. Crawford formerly resided in Portland, having come to Portland from Seattle. They were here four years and Mr. Crawford was employed as steward of the Columbia Country Club. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge and of the St. Phillips Episcopal Church of Portland. They moved to Los Angeles about eight months ago and purchased a lovely home so they could be near their youngest son, Holman, who is attending the University of Southern California. The deceased leaves to mourn their loss a wife, Mrs. W. G. Crawford, and two sons, Willie and Holman, all of Los Angeles, and a daughter, Mrs. Thelma Flowers, of Portland. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday from the Angelus Parlor.

TEACHERS GET BACK PAY

Democrats Step Aside; DePriest Bill Passes

WASHINGTON, March 2.—Liberalism prevailed in the House at an evening session last Friday and two Democratic members from the South, Representatives Thomas L. Blanton of Texas and Ross A. Collins of Mississippi, withdrew their objections and allowed Representative Oscar DePriest of Illinois and Representative Albert R. Hall of Indiana, Republicans, to obtain unanimous consent for the passage of a bill providing back pay to ten directors in the public schools for Negroes of the District of Columbia.

Mr. DePriest explained that from 1906 to 1924 colored directors were paid one salary and the white directors another. "Under the law," he said, "they are entitled to equal salaries. This bill equalizes the salaries as they should have been during that time. Upon the hearings the District Committee made every investigation and reported the bill favorably. I am sure the gentleman (Mr. Collins) would not keep these people from their just pay."

(See photo on page 4)

Pittsburgh Appoints Committees to Welcome N. A. A. C. P. in June

PITTSBURGH, Mar. 10.—Fifteen committees have been appointed here to prepare for the 22nd Annual Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, it was announced today.

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IND. LYNCHERS KNOWN TO STATE

Prosecution Fails as Second Man is Freed in Connection With Crime That Resulted in Deaths of Two Youths.

MARION, Ind., March 5.—All hope of getting a conviction in the lynching of two colored youths at the County Court House here last August by a mob of several thousand white persons was given up when the second of seven alleged participants in the crime, Charles Lennon, was acquitted by a jury here Saturday.

Four other men are out on bond and a seventh is fugitive on charges similar to that which Lennon was acquitted. Court officials intimated that charges against those still facing trial would be dismissed.

Have Pictures of Mob

The victims of the mob were Abraham Smith, 19 years old, and Thomas Shipp, 18. They were arrested as suspects in the killing of a white youth and an attack upon his girl companion. They were taken from their cells, brutally beaten, hanged from a tree and a bonfire built under them. Pictures of the mobsters gloating over their prey were taken, but still the law was unable to fasten the guilt on anyone.

RACES GET CLOSER TOGETHER

NEGO AND WHITE WORKERS FIGHT FOR UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF

NEW YORK, Mar. 12.—(CNA)—Demonstrations staged all over the United States showed the increasing militance of the employed and unemployed workers in their fight for unemployment insurance. In all these demonstrations Negro workers played a conspicuous part.

In Houston, Berry, a Negro worker, was the main speaker. It was the first time a Negro had ever spoken from the City Hall steps.

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CHARGE WILSON AGREED BUT FAILED TO RESIGN

RICHMOND, Va., Mar. 12.—A secret meeting between the opposing factions in the ranks of the I. B. P. O. E. which was held last week in this city in an attempt to mend the breach occasioned by the withdrawal of the Virginia grand lodge of Elks last year, proved futile, it was learned this week, when the first stipulation put forward by the insurgents was the expulsion of J. Finley Wilson as Grand Exalted Ruler of the order. The secret session was attended by Perry W. Howard, grand legal adviser, William C. Hueston, commissioner of education, and T. G. Butler, all of whom are representing Wilson in the case pending before the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals in which the insurgents are demanding the right to establish an order independent from the grand lodge. The insurgent group was represented at the conference by James T. Carter, Joseph R. Pollard and Dr. Leon A. Reid, against whom the grand lodge was denied an injunction restraining them from operating under the original charter granted by the state of Virginia.

It is reported that the fight was the abdication of Wilson and a written agreement from him promising not to run again for grand exalted ruler.

BIRTH OF NATION PRODUCER CH'G'D ASSAULT

LOS ANGELES, March 10.—Fern Setril, actress, charged David Wark Griffith, famous film director, with assaulting her, in a civil suit filed late today.

She asked \$601,000 damages, charging that the alleged assault occurred in Griffith's Hollywood apartment. Miss Setril set forth that she met Griffith while visiting the United Artists Studio in search of employment. Griffith, she charged, assured her that she was a "girl of unusual type of beauty" and that she had remarkable features that would film well.

Miss Setril said that the date of this meeting with Griffith was January 20, 1929, and that on June 25, 1930, he requested her to visit him in his apartment. The complaint declared that Griffith promised to give Miss Setril the role of Ann Rutledge in his film "Abraham Lincoln."

Under this promise, the girl stated, she went to Griffith's apartment and was "violently and forcibly attacked." As a result of the alleged attack, Miss Setril said she was forced to

MOTHER, SISTER BEQUEATHED \$5

BENEFICIARY IN POOR HEALTH FROM WORRYING OVER BENEFACTOR'S ILLS

Rich White Woman Leaves Negro Maid \$15,000; Sedan

Word has just been received by friends in Portland that Mrs. Johnny Meroney of El Paso, Texas, was left \$15,000 and a sedan and other personal effects by her late employer, Mrs. Lucy Marr, in her will. To each of her sisters the deceased left \$5. Mrs. Meroney is a sister-in-law of Mrs. L. H. Preston of Chicago, Ill. Mrs. Preston is a sister of the late Mrs. Leon Gregory and is known to many Portlanders, having spent a year here with her sister during her last illness. Mrs. Marr died in Los Angeles last September and her will was drawn the previous May. Mrs. Meroney was quite ill at the time the provisions of the will were made public and stated that she no doubt would have to use the greater part of the bequest in trying to regain her health, which she declares was impaired by assuming too much of her employer's troubles.

FIELD SECRETARY WORKS FOR ANTI-LYNCHING MEASURE

State Senate Passes Anti-Lynching Bill

NEW YORK, Mar. 12.—Threats against the life of William Pickens, Field Secretary of the W. A. A. C. P., were made over the telephone in Marian, Ind., where Mr. Pickens spoke and excoriated mob murderers, during the trial there of the lynchers of two colored men.

Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Bailey, hosts to Mr. Pickens during his stay, were also threatened. Although warned to stay away from the court by reason of the intense mob sentiment prevailing, Mr. Pickens attended several sessions of trial of the lynchers.

undergo an operation, suffering temporary and permanent disability to the extent of \$500,000 in addition to being compelled to spend more than \$1000 for medical treatment. She requested an additional \$100,000 for exemplary damages.

Says Nina In Love With Rich Mexican

PARIS, France, March 10.—Nina Mae McKinney, winsome film actress, in reply to queries about him. Meanwhile is touring the continent, is reported to be more than mildly interested in a young Mexican whose father is the Consul from Mexico to Cologne, Germany. The "romance" is said to have begun when he invited her to meet her father when she was in Berlin.

At the Riviera, where Nina Mae now appears, she was questioned regarding the handsome young Mexican, but only smiled and said "He's nice."

(See photo on page 2)

Speaks 13 Tongues Cant Ryell Name

RALEIGH, N. C.—(CNS)—He left his ship in Norfolk and walked to Raleigh because somebody told him he could get a job in the cotton mills at the Falls of Neuse.

He speaks 13 languages and 18 dialects, including Chinese and Gaelic, but can neither read nor write. He's a job.

ONLY NEGRO NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED IN STATE