

# THE ADVOCATE

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IN TWO SECTIONS

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## N.A.C.P. RECEIVE TEXT OF MISS. LEVEE PROBE

## SENATOR SMOOT OBJECTS TO UNANIMOUS CONSENT

MISTAKE", HE EXPLAINS

NEW YORK, Dec. 18—Senator Robert F. Wagner of New York, has sent to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People the text of the resolution he introduced calling for a senate survey of the peonage conditions on the Mississippi Flood Control project, and Senator Reed Smoot, who had promised to support the measure and then when it was introduced objected to unanimous consent for immediate consideration, now explains he did so under a mistaken impression.

Senator Smoot, a "lame duck" senator from Utah, queried by the N.A.A.C.P. as to his reasons for blocking immediate consideration of the resolution when he had promised to support it, writes under date of Dec. 15: "I objected to the resolution because I was under the impression that the House of Representatives had directed a similar investigation to be made. I find, upon inquiry, that no such action has been taken in the House. Perhaps it will be better now to have the matter taken up in its order by the Committee on Commerce and then referred to the Senate."

### OHIO SENATORS DIVIDE

Activity by N.A.A.C.P. branches has brought response from many senators pledging strong support for the measure, among these senators being Robert J. Bulkley of Ohio, Democrat, who writes to the Cincinnati branch: "You may depend upon my support for this resolution." His colleague, Simeon D. Fess, Republican, who comes up for reelection next year, merely acknowledges receipt of the communication from the Cincinnati branch and does not commit himself in any way.

Another senator who has expressed to the St. Louis branch of the N.A.A.C.P. his "pleasure in giving such a resolution my hearty support" is Roscoe Patterson of Missouri.

### TEXT OF RESOLUTION

The text of the resolution, known as "Senate Resolution 309" is as follows:

"RESOLVED, That the Committee on Commerce, or any duly authorized subcommittee thereof, is authorized and directed to investigate the labor conditions prevailing upon Mississippi flood-control project and, as soon as practicable, to report to the Senate its findings and its recommendations.

Sec. 2. For the purposes of this resolution the committee, or any duly authorized subcommittee thereof, is authorized to hold such hearings, to sit and act at such times and places during the Seventy-second Congress, to employ such experts, and clerical, stenographic, and other assistants, to require by subpoena or otherwise the attendance of such witnesses and the production of such books, papers, and documents, to administer such oaths and to take such testimony and to make such expenditures, as it deems advisable. The cost of stenographic services to report such hearing shall not be in excess of 25 cents per hundred words. The expenses of committee, which shall not exceed \$10,000, shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee.

In making public the text the N.A.A.C.P. stressed the bitter opposition to be expected, in view of the lobby list hired by the levee contractors, the opposition of Administration senators like Smoot, and the unwillingness of Fess, another Administration senator, to commit himself in any way.

### CONTRACTORS "CLEANING UP"

Contractors through their lobbyist, the N.A.A.C.P. is reliably informed, are planning to issue a sweeping denial of the charges made by the N.A.A.C.P. investigator and there is a rumor in Washington that they are building huts, making general improvements in the camps, and "cleaning up" in order to forestall the senatorial investigation and to be able to present a clean bill of health to the investigators.

# 3,000 PROTEST BY DEMONSTRATION N.A.A.C.P. GAINS COURT VICTORY

## PITTSBURGH NAACP WINS COURT FIGHT AGAINST SCHOOL JIM CROW

## NO COLORED ALLOWED, ADVISES ANOTHER DISTRICT

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Dec. 17—A peremptory writ of mandamus has been issued by the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas, in a suit financed, and fought by attorneys for the local National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, ordering the directors of the Brentwood Borough School District to admit William and Evaline Burnett to the public school there after it had been sought to bar them because of their color.

Attorneys Richard F. Jones, Joseph W. Givens, and Homer S. Brown, who is President of the Pittsburgh N.A.A.C.P. achieved this clean-cut legal victory against the attempt to set up a color bar against the two children. It was brought out in the suit that a new public high school was opened in the district on February 1, 1932 and that the supervising principal, J. D. Doydston, toured the neighboring townships soliciting written applications to enter the school from local children. Among the two children so solicited were the two Burnett children. They were both qualified to enter school, scholastically, but received no card of admission when these were sent to the other children.

Mr. Doydston, when queried, advised the boys to enter a school in some other district as no colored child had ever attended the Brentwood schools. On Sept. 6, 1932, both children presented themselves for admission but were denied enrollment. The Court held that Mr. Burnett was entitled to have his children admitted to the school and issued the peremptory writ of mandamus requiring their admission.

## GOV. WILL PUNISH FLOGGERS

NEW YORK, Dec. 18—Governor Doyle E. Carlton of Florida has written to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in reply to its communication of Dec. 2, giving assurance that the brutal flogging of two citizens of Clearwater will have his early attention and saying: "I am calling upon the proper officials for prompt investigation of the matter and punishment of the guilty parties."

Meanwhile the stir created by the brutal assaults upon the men dared to protest against discrimination in the distribution of free government flour, has caused an exodus of northern tourists from the vicinity, according to reports reaching the N.A.A.C.P.

The report to the N.A.A.C.P. states that the mobbists evidently intended to discourage the activities of W.D. Williams in behalf of his race.

"I believe they thought by inflicting such treatment," says the report to the N.A.A.C.P., "he would be made to cease his activities as a whole and probably leave the community. His activities along many lines tended to enlighten the average unthoughtful Negro. This kind of advice the southern cracker tries to keep from the average Negroes of the South—Meetings have been held by several civic organizations regarding legal action against those who perpetrated this crime which cast a bluish on the fair name of this winter tourist city."

"The incoming northern tourists and visitors for the winter are leaving in large numbers since reading the headlines in the papers regarding the activities against the colored people by these hoodlums. The mayor has been touring the Negro section making speeches deploring this treatment of these two Negro men and citizens. But we have our opinion of him."

## Digesting . . . The News

BY CLIFFORD C. MITCHELL

### GREETINGS!

To every reader of this column, extending from the Pacific to the Atlantic coast, and from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico, the most sincere greetings are extended.

To each editor, publisher, staff employee and writer on the nearly one hundred "exchanges" that reach me regularly I extend the season's greetings.

To each of the eighty-six book publishers, and authors, who have cooperated with me, and their employees, I take this method of wishing you much joy and merriment at this season of the year.

To the hundreds of correspondents who have communicated with me, from all parts of the North American continent, I want you to know that I am hoping for each one of you, success and happiness.

To my fellow "villagers", officials and inmates alike, I am glad that I am able to publicly proclaim the respect and heartfelt feeling that your spirit of cooperation so forcibly demonstrates a mutual existence among men. If, in after years, I can always be assured of the same cooperation among free people as I have received here in Jackson Prison, among prisoners and officials, I shall be divinely blessed.

And to that group of personal friends who have brought so much cheer, hope and help into my life through their communications at regular intervals I am sincere in wishing for them the very best that the season affords, even though I am unable even to these select friends to offer my Yuletide sentiment in any other manner than through these words in this column.

Continuing further in this personal vein I wish to explain that any seeming success that I have achieved in the field of Negro journalism has been earned, not from a flash of brilliance but purely through a regular, systematic, never-failing, weekly contribution of thought.

In order to keep well informed it is, and always has been necessary to spend many hours in daily research work, making notes and checking data that appears from week to week in our publications. As my list of co-operators, both newspapers and book publishers, and also a growing list of magazine publishers, increases, so also does the detailed research work in connection therewith.

With this feature of my work alone, not to mention the handling of much correspondence, it can be readily seen that each moment of my spare time in prison finds some task to be performed and less and less am I able to give utterance in any other form than through the various weekly columns that I write.

Therefore, please accept this message as my personal greeting, wishing to you and yours, "A very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year."

### NEGRO PRISONER DECORATES WALLS OF PRISON CHAPEL

Ossining, N. Y. Dec. 20—Sing Sing prison authorities are loud in praise of the work of decorating the walls, windows and tapestries recently completed in the prison chapel by Walter Brown, a Negro prisoner serving a term of twenty years to life.

Brown, 49 years old, was convicted in Erie county seven years ago of second degree murder.

He has painted stage scenery and has done considerable mural decorating in the prison, but his talent is said to be demonstrated best by the task just finished in the chapel.

## SEEK TO RESTORE FIGHTING STATUS TO NEGRO ARMY

Washington, Dec. 19—The Civil Liberties Bureau of the I. B. P. O. E. of the World, is making a strong effort in seeking restoration of the Negro troopers to the same status as they had before detailed to Fort Meyers. The matter was originally brought up in the grand lodge at its Philadelphia session, following which a delegation called on Secretary Hurley and Gen. Douglas MacArthur. An extended report was made to President Hoover by Gen. MacArthur, on request of Representative Oscar DePriest, and referred to the Elk committee. This committee conducted its own investigation however, and took issue with the report.

The matter of Colored troops being reduced to subalterns and hostlers, the Grand Exalted Ruler stated had a wider influence in swinging the Negro vote away from the party in power in the late election. The Elk committee will seek the support of William J. Thompson, of Kansas City, and Ferdinand R. Morton, of New York, Negro Democratic leaders, in restoring all Colored Army units to regular status.

### PREFERS JAIL TO WIFE

Salem, Mass., Dec. 17—James W. Campbell, 35, of this city, proved a mystery to the police Wednesday, when he confessed to a murder committed in Louisiana 11 years ago. His reason for the confession, he said, was that he would rather be returned to Louisiana and face a murder charge than return to his wife after his sentence of six months in the Salem House of Correction is ended.

Campbell had just been sentenced to the House of Correction to six months for assault on a Lowell girl and non-support of his wife. He was being taken to jail to serve his sentence when he said to Officer John Bates, who was in the patrol wagon with him, "Say, officer, I killed a man in Louisiana several years ago."

Bates did not believe Campbell's story and told him that he was having a "pipe dream". This provoked Campbell, Officer Bates said, and Campbell replied, "Honest, officer, I am telling the truth. I want to keep away from that woman I married two years ago." Campbell's earnestness convinced Officer Bates that there might be some truth to his story. The patrol wagon was turned around and Campbell was taken back to the station, where he related his story to Captain Pelletier.

Captain Pelletier communicated with High Sheriff Dunn of East Call Parish, La., and the sheriff told Captain Dunn that he remembered the murder. He requested that he speak to Campbell. After talking to him for a few minutes he told Captain Dunn that he doubted Campbell's story, but that it would be a good idea to hold Campbell while his story was being checked.

Campbell in his confession said that his real name was Paul Negro, that the man he killed was named William Campbell, and that after he murdered him he took the man's name. He said that he and the murdered man deserted from the United States Army while soldiers were at Camp Pike.

"I took \$300 from him, tied bags weighted with stones about his body and threw it in the river," the police quoted Campbell as having said. "Later on I had a girl write a letter to Campbell's father and tell him that his son had died." After the murder Campbell said he moved to Akron, Ohio, and came here two years ago, where he met and married his present wife. He also claimed to have a wife living in Akron he said he never had divorced because he did not think it necessary.

According to the police, even if Campbell murdered a man he will never be tried for it, because the body was never recovered or found. He will be charged with bigamy.

### 2 BOYS FREED AFTER LIFE SENTENCES INDIANA CASE LIKENED TO SCOTTSBORO

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 17—Two Negroes Richard Harris and John May aged 21 respectively are free men after having been railroaded to life sentences in a case which one of their counsel, Robert L. Bailey, likens to the Scottsboro cases.

Mr. Bailey, who is an executive committee member of Indiana State Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of the Colored People, fought the case together with attorney Robert Lee Brokenburr.

The two boys, who like the Scottsboro defendants, were vagrants riding a freight train in November, 1930, were taken from the train at La Porte, Ind., charged with having robbed two white hoboes and having wounded one of them during the robbery, with a deadly weapon. This offense carries a life penalty in Indiana.

The boys were subjected to third degree, hastened to court and without any adequate legal defense were sentenced to life imprisonment. The petition filed in their behalf said they had been made plead guilty without knowledge of the consequences.

Mr. Bailey reports that the boys were released on motion of the State of Indiana, on the morning of December 12.

The National Office of the N.A.A.C.P. contributed \$100 toward the cost of the case.

## CHURCH COUNCIL ADOPTS ADVANCE PROGRAM FOR RACE RELATIONS

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 23—The sixth quadrennial session of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America was held in Hotel Severin, December 6-9. Bishop Francis J. McConnell retired from the Presidency of the church body, and Dr. Albert W. Beaven, president of Colgate-Rochester Divinity School was elected successor. Speakers from China and several European countries in addition to American delegates addressed the gathering on religion, evangelism, social service, economics, and other questions of world importance. An address on world peace was made by President Mary E. Woolley, a member of the recent Disarmament Conference in Geneva.

The Council's Commission on Race Relations, George E. Haynes and Katherine Gardner, secretaries, held its annual session on the night of the 8th with an interracial banquet and program at the Severin Hotel Inn where the entire quadrennial delegation was housed. The report on the Commission's eleventh year of work, prepared by Dr. Haynes and his associates including Bishop George C. Clement, chairman of the Commission, and Mrs. Eva Hills Eastman, chairwoman of the Committee of Direction, stressed the advance by the churches and allied agencies for race relations, presenting in chosen language and clear thought the problems of interracial adjustment which the Commission has attacked and aided in solution.

The features of the report which evoked the largest interest were in the recommendations on civic justice in race relations, the problem of segregation and equality of economic opportunity for Negro workers. "It is imperative that individual Christians, church organizations, and allied agencies should stand for impartial trial by due process of law of all persons accused of crime," the report states, "lest the very processes of law become permeated with the lawless spirit." It was pointed out that only two states—Mississippi and Florida—had never been on the Honor Roll of states free from lynching.

### N.A.A.C.P. CHALLENGES PRES CHASE ILLINOIS UNIV. ON GARNER SPEECH

NEW YORK, Dec. 18—Attempt by Dr. Harry W. Chase, President of the University of Illinois, to excuse and explain the "white domination" speech made in Atlanta Nov. 26 by Professor James W. Garner, has drawn a reply from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People inquiring whether the Professor did or did not make the remarks quoted by the Associated Press.

The N.A.A.C.P. brushes aside the contention that Professor Garner is a "humanitarian" and has been kind to individual Negro students, saying: "The issue goes far deeper than that. One can be most charming in personal manner and most kindly and benevolent, but yet deny fundamental citizenship rights which would keep the objects of his kind benevolence eternally in a position of inferiority—Professor Garner proposes elimination of the racial issue from politics by elimination of the Negro from participation as a voter. The point at issue is whether or not Professor Garner made the statements attributed to him in direct quotes by the New York Times and the Associated Press."

### WHITES STRIKE FOR NEGROES

Mena, Ark.—Two thirds of the student body of the college, and for support self-government.

Commonwealth College is a liberal labor school controlled by a self-perpetuating association, which owns the property and lays down the rules for the conduct of the school. The student group has recently been forcing the college authorities to adopt a more radical program. The latest campaign of the students has been waged around three chief demands: The right of Negro students to enter the college; the right of the student's self-government and student representation on all administrative bodies. The administration answered these demands by expelling Forbes and Copen, whereupon two thirds of the students refused to attend classes until their leaders would be reinstated.

Six of the striking students were arrested on warrants sworn out by the administration, charging the strikers with "trespassing on private property." The Justice of the Peace dismissed all the cases, but insisted that Forbes and Copen leave the school grounds. This the two leaders have refused to do. The students are standing by firm in their support of the expelled members and announce their determination to break down the Jim-Crow line of their college.

The National Labor Defense has wired protests to the administration of the school against the expulsion of the students and the arrest of the six.

### RICHMOND INSURANCE COMPANIES ALL JOIN N. A. A. C. P. 100 PER CENT

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 17 Six insurance companies of Richmond have set a new record by joining the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People 100 per cent, according to announcement here by Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkin, Regional Field Secretary of the N.A.A.C.P. conducting the membership campaign drive here.

The insurance companies which joined with 100 per cent of their agency and office forces are: Richmond Beneficial Insurance Company; Independent Order of St. Luke; Southern Aid Society; North Carolina Mutual Insurance Company; National Benefit Life Insurance Company and the National Ideal Benefit Society.

The Order of St. Luke took out a life membership in honor of its head, Mrs. Maggie L. Walker. In the Southern Aid Society the memberships ranged from \$1 to \$500 as Mr. B. L. Jordan, the Secretary Manager is paying instalments on a life-membership in the N.A.A.C.P.

## HUNGER MARCHERS PARADE IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 18—"Black and White Unites and Fight!" resounded around the Nation's Capitol and along historic Pennsylvania Ave. Tuesday when 3,000 men and women "hunger marchers" demonstrated against alleged injustices to the labor groups. A conservative count placed 294 colored men and 52 women in the line of march. There were six or seven colored delegates in the group permitted by police to petition the Senate while seven colored marchers were in the delegation which left a list of "injustices" with the House of Representatives. The parade which took 15 minutes to pass a given point was attended by heavily armed police on every side, who since the arrival of the marchers here Sunday from all sections of the country had expected a clash with the unemployed people whom they accused of being Reds. Armed to the teeth with machine guns, tear gas and nauseating gas, police in more than a score of patrol wagons went before and in the van of the parade while lines of marching blue coats hemmed the demonstrators in on each side of the streets.

"Freedom for the Scottsboro boys!" was the message heralded by a flaming red banner carried by colored and white youths. "We Want Bread—to Hell with Beer!" was the marching chant of the parade division. A division in the parade which caused the most comment from the thousands of whites who lined the Avenue was composed of white and colored workers from Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi. It isn't unusual to see Northern whites welcoming the colored workers into labor groups, but it is almost unheard of occasion when native white Southerners march side by side with colored men and women. An onlooker turned to his companion and exclaimed: "The only real Americans in that bunch are the d—n—s!"

Observation of the colored marchers revealed that the majority was composed of alert youths whose faces attested to their serious interest in the movement to which they had attached themselves. Prior to the parade a car occupied by six white men and two colored was escorted to a house when the group said they had been permitted to stay due to sickness among them. The escort without permitting them to alight returned the car to the assigned "hunger camp". No less than 25 patrolmen headed by a lieutenant, surrounded the machine. "Come out of there you lousy white trash, traveling around with blacks," shouted the policeman. A stream of vile words flowed from the lips of the law upholders while the ill men were herded back into camp which boasted not a single tent nor drinking or sanitary conveniences.

### APPOINTMENT FOR NEGROES CERMAK IS TOLD WILL TEST DEMOCRATIC PARTY GOOD FAITH

CHICAGO, Dec. 16—Mayor Anton Cermak of Chicago as Democratic National Committeeman has been notified by the Chicago branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, that appointments to office of properly qualified colored citizens, will constitute a test of the Democratic party's recognition of the citizenship needs of Negroes. Copies of the letter, written by Archie L. Weaver, branch secretary, have been sent to Governor-elect Henry Horner, and a long list of other leading city, state and county officers including judges, members of Democratic committees, U. S. Senator J. Hamilton Lewis and Congressman William H. Dietrich.

"That they (colored voters) gave the Democratic party a greater measure of support than ever before," says the letter, "is indicative of their interest in Democratic government and should commend them for participation in the administrative functions of the various offices which your party now controls by virtue of the people's mandate. We submit the argument that quantitative representation in proportion to population is good from the standpoint of civic welfare and urge upon you, the appointment of Negroes to positions in each of the various departments of government."

The letter makes clear the non-partisan nature of the N.A.A.C.P. and reminds its recipients that the Democratic party had not heretofore enrolled large numbers of Negroes.

## Seasons Greetings

from DR. DE NORVAL and FAMILY