

# NEGROES VICTIMS OF REDS

## BRANCH ACTS TO SAVE CONDEMNED NEGRO

### MAN SENTENCED TO HANG THOT INNOCENT

### NATIONAL OFFICE AIDS LOCAL BRANCH IN FIGHT

Portland, Oregon, Jan. 6—Charles W. Robinson, former District Attorney at Portland, has been retained by the Portland Branch of the N. A. A. C. P. to defend Theodore Jordan, charged with murder, following an exhaustive investigation into the circumstances of the case.

Jordan was accused of attacking a dining car steward and beating him into unconsciousness last July at Klamath Falls, Oregon. The steward, after lingering in an unconscious condition for several months, eventually died without regaining consciousness.

Investigation by Clarence E. Ivey, president of the Portland branch, and Mr. Robinson, reveals that through third degree torture, Jordan was induced to sign seven different confessions, no two of which were identical, and "would have signed seventeen more to have ended the torture". On his arm is a scar from a three-inch burn which Jordan claims was caused by the application of a "lie detector" which was placed on his arm and attached to a light socket and left to "fry" the arm. Jordan's clothes were removed and he was kicked in the groin, permanently injuring him. A gun was held to his head by detective es, according to Jordan's affidavit, and he begged them to pull the trigger preferring death to further brutality.

There is also grave doubt that Jordan had anything whatever to do with the beating of the dining car steward or had any knowledge of the crime.

Mr. Ivey has made two trips to the prison at Salem to interview Jordan and reports that the entire prison force is of the opinion that Jordan is not guilty.

Upon consideration of the facts in the case the National Association of office has made a contribution of \$100 toward the expenses of securing a new trial for Jordan and plans are rapidly being matured for the difficult and probably long-drawn out legal battle to save his life. The Portland Branch asks churches, lodges and individuals help finance this case which is of vital importance to the future of Negroes in the northwestern section of the country. Contributions may be sent to Clarence E. Ivey, president, 946 Tibbets street, Portland, Oregon. All contributions will be duly acknowledged with the official receipt of the Portland Branch of the Association and a careful accounting made of all moneys raised and expended.

The regular meeting of the branch will be held Sunday (tomorrow) at 4 P. M. at the Williams Avenue branch Y. W. C. A. At this meeting the latest reports of the Jordan murder case will be given and the new Board members will be installed.

At an enthusiastic meeting held on Thursday night of last week, pledges were made to raise funds to help fight the case. A number of persons volunteered to take lists and solicit funds.

### PORTLAND LAWYER TO ASSIST MYERS IN JORDAN CASE

Klamath Falls, Oregon, January 9—Charles Robinson, attorney of Portland has been obtained by the Colored Association of that city to assist W. P. Myers, defense attorney for Theodore Jordan, Negro, sentenced to hang at Salem February 3.

Myers stated that additional time has been granted for his motion of re-trial. It will be made sometime before Jan. 15, Myers said. If the motion for a new trial is overruled, the case will be appealed to the supreme court, he said.

Jordan was recently found guilty of first degree murder in connection with the death of F. T. Sullivan, white Southern Pacific steward.

# DR. DUBOIS AND SCOTT MAKE-UP

### RACIAL INJUSTICE FATAL TO MANY

### ENRAGED PRIVATE SLAYS FOUR AT U. S. INFANTRY POST

### Jim Crow Regulations Culminate In Serious Outbreak

FORT HUACHUA, Ariz.—Trouble which has been brewing between white officers and Negro soldiers here since the publication of a segregation order last March flared into open violence last Wednesday when a private, James Abernathy, goaded by insults, shot and killed two captains and their wives. The dead are Captain and Mrs. John Wessely and Captain and Mrs. David Palm; a Lieutenant, H. R. Mat thews was wounded. Abernathy himself was killed by guards.

The trouble occurred when Captain Wessely drove to the army supply post to order gasoline. Something happened and the private shot Wessely and then drove to the home to kill Mrs. Wessely. A minute later he killed the other captain and his wife and wounded the lieutenant when his arrest was sought.

The exact circumstances surrounding the trouble are shrouded in the secrecy of the censorship that cloaks the post. Statements given out by the commanding officer allude to "fancied grievances".

Troubles between officers and men began last March when the officers ordered the Jim Crow and segregation of Negroes and Indians in places of amusement, schools and other public facilities. At that time the men drew up a protest to the war department, characterizing the order as un-American and unfair and asked official interference.

The 25th infantry is stationed at the post. Officers are all white and soldiers are colored.

### GEORGIA GIRL FIRST TO PASS NURSES' EXAMS

### ROARK BRADFORD'S 'JOHN HENRY' STORIES TO BE BROADCAST

NEW YORK, Jan. 12—The American Negro folk legends will be brought to radio in a new series of sustaining programs based on Roark Bradford's famous story of "John Henry" to be presented by the Columbia Broadcasting System over a nationwide network each Sunday night beginning on (tomorrow), January 15. The program to be known as "John Henry—Black River Giant" will follow the exploits of the fabulous strong man of the Mississippi country in dramatized incidents from Bradford's book. The radio adaptation is being prepared by Gertrude Garrick and Juano Hernandez, creator of the role of "Crown" in the New York Theatre Guild's production of "Porgy".

The opening broadcast of "John Henry" will be heard from 8:00 to 8:15 P. M., Eastern Standard Time, on Sunday, January 15. The second episode will be on the air from 8:45 to 9:00 P. M., Eastern Standard Time. Each period will be complete in itself.

### WINS PROMOTION

Mr. Orran I. Grossman, who was recently appointed assistant manager of the Portland District of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

Mr. Grossman deserted the profession of Dentistry for the insurance business, in which he has shown rare executive and organizational ability.



—Cut Courtesy 'The Scribe'

His promotion is well deserved, and his friends and patrons whom he served as field man, are most happy to note his steady climb although they regret to miss his weekly calls.

The Advocate congratulates Mr. Grossman and calls his attention to the fact that we predicted he would be given such promotion about the time it came.

### NEGROES DIE REDS GO FREE

### Editor Thinks Race Should Fight For Rights, But By Legal Means Nothing To Gain From Violence

Atlanta, Ga., January 12—"Let Negroes unite, not to stage gun battles with officers of the law, but to battle for our rights legally in the courts, and economically through mass owned business giving employment to Negroes which would make for independence. This would do more to benefit the Negro than all the communist propaganda in Russia".

Thus the Atlanta World, influential local Negro daily, comments on the recent tragic clash near Dadeville, Ala., in which four officers were shot and three Negroes killed, as a result apparently of communist propaganda. The World makes it clear that it does not advocate tame submission to injustice. On the other hand, it states its belief that "the Negro is entirely too passive." At the same time it holds that "belligerence of the type displayed near Dadeville is worse than baring the back to the blows of prejudice."

"Militant resistance is absurd," says the World, "particularly in Dixie. The Negro is without funds or armament for fighting. He may be shot down in the name of the law, for he has neither law nor its enforcement agencies on his side. The gun and the sword is the last way to obtain justice for the Negro."

The World also points out the fact that in these recurring tragedies, supposedly to communist influence, "none of the white Red leaders is ever slain: the Negro bears the blunt of the violence."

Interviews with representative Negro leaders here and in Alabama reveal the fact that they are in complete agreement with the views expressed by the World. Being a minority group in numbers, resources, and power, the Negro has nothing to gain

### WOMAN LAWYER WINS BIG CASE AGAINST RAILROAD

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., January 9—Miss L. O. Smith, brilliant colored woman lawyer here won against high powered attorneys of the Great Northern railroad last week, when a jury in the District court, Judge Mathias Baldwin presiding, granted damages of \$3000 to Clarence Cleaves, a youth whose jaw was broken by a special agent of the railroad, September, 1931 when he walked through the yards of the railroad.

The first trial was held in June and Cleaves who formerly went under the alias of Tom Cack, was awarded \$1000. The railroad attorneys appealed but in the second trial Miss Smith won to a greater degree than the first. Miss Smith who has been practicing law successfully here for several years has won unstinted praise for her handling of the case.

### NEGRO WILL BE AT WHITE HOUSE

### ROOSEVELT TO TAKE GEORGIA MAN TO WASHINGTON AS VALET

Washington, D. C. Jan. 13—(CNS)—Irvin H. McDuffie, who became Mr. Roosevelt's valet while the latter was on a vacation at Warm Springs, Ga., two years before he was inaugurated Governor of New York and is slated to accompany Mr. Roosevelt to Washington, is quoted as saying:

"I have been with Governor Roosevelt since 1927, and honestly I didn't know anyone could have a disposition as good as his, there's no other man like the Governor.

"I never would have given up bartering to become Mr. Roosevelt's valet if my leg had not been scalded, making it hard for me to keep up my work," McDuffie said. "If it hadn't been for that accident I would have missed what will be the greatest experience of my life, being valet to the President."

"If any one had told me then that I'd go to the White House as a President's valet, I'd have said he was crazy. I never dreamed of anything like this."

This 50-year-old colored man, born at Elberton, Ga., is a barber by trade and spent 27 years of his life in Atlanta—part of the time in business for himself.

He has traveled with the Governor all over the country on his numerous trips. Before Mr. Roosevelt was elected Governor of New York, McDuffie was his only companion on trips thru the middle west. McDuffie accompanied him all over New York State on his two strenuous campaigns for the governorship, made three trips thru the State barge canal to Canada, and two years ago crossed the Atlantic with the Governor when he went to Paris and Versailles. He also went with the Governor on his long swings through the west and south in the recent presidential campaign.

McDuffie said his wife has been a maid in a prominent Atlanta family for 23 years would probably join him in Washington, but that she would not be on the White House staff. He has one son, Joseph McDuffie, by a former marriage, who lives in New York.

McDuffie accompanied the Governor to Portland on his recent presidential campaign and was loud in his praise of his employer.

### FIFTEENTH ANNUAL OREGON PRESS CONFERENCE CALLED

The Advocate is in receipt of an invitation to attend the Fifteenth Annual Session of the Oregon Press Conference to be held January 19th to 21 in the School of Journalism, University of Oregon, Eugene.

The meeting opens at 2 p.m. with an

### ADVOCATE EDITOR WRITES JOURNAL

The following is copied from a letter which The Advocate editor wrote to the Daily Journal Editor after reading his editorial, "Soak The Disinherited", which was published in The Advocate of last week:

Portland, Oregon, January 3, 1933—To The Editor of The Daily Journal: I have just read your editorial, "Soak The Disinherited" in your issue of even date and hasten to add my endorsement to the sentiment therein expressed.

Mississippi does hold a rather unique record in establishing precedents in more ways than one. For example: In an authentic report of a recent investigation of work on the Mississippi Flood Control project, intended to control the devastating floods of the Mississippi over the adjacent land of the Delta States, it is revealed that Mississippi works Negroes on the levee in private camps for as much as twelve and in many cases, fourteen and sixteen hours a day, in addition to over-long daytime hours, they are worked at nights without one cent of overtime pay; the rate of pay has been as low as ten cents an hour and even less, and in a multitude of authenticated cases the men have been summarily discharged without pay; have received only a fraction of the pay stipulated and have been forced to purchase at Company stores and Commissaries where the prices are exorbitant. Examples: 12-lb sack of flour 60c, regular 30c; salt pork 15c, regular 6c; cotton pants \$2, regular 98c; condensed milk 20c, regular 8c and so on. In addition to this, men and women as well, have been subjected to brutal beatings.

The following excerpts are taken verbatim from the reports:

"The sub-contractor, engineers and other white men on the job are armed with rifles and revolvers."

"There is no mosquito netting, no furniture of any kind but straw is furnished for the men to sleep on."

"A minimum of \$4 a week is taken from their pay for the commissary and they are obliged to trade there."

"They do not ask the prices charged for anything and are not answered if they ask. They get no itemized statement. The boss-man tells them the amount due them in wages and the amount of their indebtedness at the commissary and gives them any amount this reckoning allows them. One man said he received \$1.50 after working five weeks and he knew the amount he had purchased at the commissary could have been bought at any store for \$5."

"Whippings occur daily."

In three areas alone: Memphis, Vicksburg and New Orleans, these Negro levee workers are being cheated out of \$1,412,226 annually in wages. These figures are based on the difference between what the levee workers are now paid and what they would be paid if they worked under a prevailing rate of wage law. The total amount of work under contract in these areas is given as \$28,109,113.96.

Mississippi also holds another record—lynching. In a forty-six-year period—

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### DUBOIS RETRACTS EDITORIAL VS. DR. SCOTT

NEW YORK CITY, Jan.—Using the editorial "we", Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, editor of the Crisis Magazine, in the January issue of that publication publishes a retraction of the editorial in the April Crisis reflecting on Dr. Scott of Howard university.

Declaring that "it was furthest from his mind to reflect upon the integrity, ability or zeal in behalf of Howard university of Emmett J. Scott, Dr. Du Bois says, "We cheerfully withdraw any word that reflect upon him or upon any member of the Board of Trustees."

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### SOLON PNEUMONIA VICTIM



—Cut Courtesy Oregon Daily Journal

Representative R. R. Butler, of the Second Oregon district, who died of pneumonia in Washington, on last Saturday afternoon, January 7.

In the last general election, ex-Gov. Walter M. Pierce was elected to succeed Rep. Butler. Mr. Pierce will take office on March 4.

### BREAD NEEDED SAYS BISHOP

### Preachers' Emphasis Should Be Shifted From Theology To Life, Gammon Students Are Told

Atlanta, Ga., January 13—That many preachers are giving people the dry bones of theology rather than the bread of life, was the conviction expressed by Bishop Wilbur P. Thirkfield of New York, in his Founder's Day address Friday at Gammon Theological Seminary, this city. "Many theological schools", he said, "should reorganize their work to meet the needs of life today, with less attention to Hebrew and Greek and a great deal more to the practical needs of individuals and society."

The emphasis of ministerial training should be shifted from theology to preaching, Bishop Thirkfield said, and people should be invited to accept Christianity as a way of life, rather than as a system of theology. He pled also for higher standards of intellectual and spiritual life on the part of ministerial candidates, and for a new type of evangelism adapted to changed conditions.

Speakers include R. H. Jonas, Princeton Central Oregonian; Lucien P. Arant, Baker Democrat Herald; H. G. Ball, Hood River News; H. R. Frailing, Oregon Journal, Portland; R. W. Sawyer, Bend Bulletin; William Wallace, Portland Oregonian, W. Verne McKinney, Hillsboro Argus.

Digesting . . .  
The News  
BY CLIFFORD C. MITCHELL

### A NEGRO CONTRIBUTOR'S MAGAZINE

About three months ago this column was devoted to suggestions for "Young Negro Writers". That particular release was written merely by way of reply to hundreds of letters received from aspiring writers over a period of two years.

I had hoped that by contributing my thoughts on the subject that the matter would be dropped, as far as I was personally concerned. To my surprise a condition quite to the contrary has arisen and an even greater amount of correspondence has been received on the subject.

Not only do the correspondents thank me for analyzing the situation they were up against but most of them seem to think that because this column is read in every part of America that I can considerably advance their cause by placing their aim before the public in the hope that some progressive and capable race member will respond by providing a medium of national circulation for their particular benefit.

My conclusions in the matter convince me that there is a wonderful field for a "Negro Contributor's Magazine". Such a magazine would adopt only contributed matter, stories, essays, poems, features and drawings from the pen of aspiring writers.

Such contributors, judging from the correspondence I have received, are to be found in every community in the country. Each contributor would not only have the satisfaction of seeing their "brain-child" in print but they could, and would, act as a distributing agent for the magazine, and in this latter capacity they could commercialize their efforts, thus earning, indirectly, a competence for their contributions.

With thousands of such contributors, from all parts of the country, an immediate nationwide circulation would be assured, and would be constantly increasing because of the very active effort that each contributor would make in "selling" the idea and the magazine to their relatives, friends and acquaintances and neighbors.

Apparently, the demand for such a magazine is undisputed. The question then is in securing a competent person to "put it across". There have been many attempts made at filling this demand, usually by "fly-by-night" promoters who lacked both the necessary ability and finances to make their project successful.

To properly launch such a magazine, the owner, or owners, should have a sufficient financial backing to carry their efforts for at least a year, either in the form of outright ownership of the necessary capital, or a pro rata investment from each aspiring contributor.

To any who might undertake this project I shall be glad to cooperate and help to provide a definite medium for our aspiring writers.

### OUR GOAL — THE ADVOCATE IN EVERY WHITE HOME IN OREGON IN 1933

### ROUND TRIP FOR CORPSE SAVES TRIP BY RELATIVES

COLUMBIA, Ga., (CNS)—Economic considerations caused Elijah Thurman, an aged Negro, to apply to a local freight office here for a round trip rate to Chicago—for a corpse.

He explained, it was said, that relatives in Chicago wanted a last look at the deceased before burial here.

Thirty heads of the far-separated family figured it far cheaper to transport the corpse in that manner, than to send the distant relatives here for the final rites.