

Elaborate Ceremonies Mark Formal Opening Of Greater Provident Hospital In Chicago, Illinois

Marked Tribute To Interracial Co-operation And Goodwill

CHICAGO, June 9— (By the Associated Negro Press)—Forty-two years of earnest, constructive effort between some of the most notable white and colored citizens of Chicago was symbolized Thursday when the magnificent \$3,000,000 Greater Provident Hospital and Training School, affiliated with the University of Chicago, was formally opened to the public.

The late Julius Rosenwald, whose philanthropies and faith were largely responsible for the new institution, and who, with the late Dr. Frank Billings, led a campaign to raise \$1,350,000 among the citizens of Chicago for Greater Provident, described the effort then as "the greatest project for the American Negro since Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation."

Various ceremonies were arranged by the board of directors, the women's auxiliary and the Ella Smith taggers for the entertainment of the public during the period of the formal opening from June 2 to June 11. Alexander L. Jackson is chairman of the board of directors and Admiral N. J. Blackwood is medical director.

Names associated with the early history of Provident hospital were: Philip D. Armour, whose initiative gave the institution its start at 29th and Dearborn streets; Dr. Dan J. Williams, its chief of staff for many years, who was the first surgeon in this country to perform a successful operation on the human heart; Mrs. T. B. Blackstone, whose interest was largely responsible for the success of the tenor, George Garner; George M. Pullman, Marshall Field, head of the great merchant family; Cyrus H. McCormick, founder of the International Harvester company; John J. Mitchell, the late banker; Potter Palmer, whose wife was for many years the social leader of Chicago; J. Ogden Armour, rich packer; Nathan Freer, who at a cost of \$25,000 established the Esther Freer Home for Nurses in memory of his mother and Dr. George Cleveland Hall, chief of staff.

In 1930, the hospital had graduated 238 nurses, qualified 143 doctors for state licenses through internships and served 150,507 patients.

Perhaps the most striking situation which led to the expansion program was the state of Negro health in the city of Chicago. Figures for 1922 showed that the Negro death rate was

122 per cent higher than that of the white population, and even higher than that of Calcutta, India, notorious for one of the highest rates in the world.

When plans were made for affiliation with the University of Chicago and Rush Medical college, the following objectives were kept in mind:

1. Provisions of clinical instruction for Negro undergraduate medical students.
2. To increase the number of internships available to Negro medical graduates.
3. To provide post graduate education and training, practically denied in this country.
4. To provide for the professional advancement of highly qualified physicians on a par with opportunities then available to whites.
5. Provision of opportunities for teaching and research as well as clinical medicine, surgery and the specialities.
6. Provision of opportunities of studying diseases which are the graves' health problems of Negroes.
7. To study Negro public health problems and to train Negro public health workers.

8. To train under improved conditions a greater number of nurses.

9. To train Negro technicians for laboratory, x-ray and electro-cardiograph work and to develop administrators for hospitals serving Negroes.

10. To train Negro social workers and to study Negro social problems.

The three million which the hospital cost was divided as follows:

\$1,000,000 to provide a teaching and research fund for the university of Chicago. Nine hundred thousand dollars for the physical hospital, of which \$750,000 was expended for the purchase of the Chicago-Lying-In hospital and \$150,000 for remodeling and new equipment. And, finally, \$1,100,000 for an operating fund.

The General Education Board gave \$1,000,000 to the project, the Julius Rosenwald Fund and the Conrad Hubert Estate \$750,000, and \$1,250,000 was raised by popular subscription.

The new hospital has 128 beds for adults and 22 bassinets. There are approximately 100 employees. In 1932, in the old location, 1,203 patients were served in beds and 50,000 in the clinic.

From the standpoint of its x-ray equipment the new Provident hospital is superior to any in the city. It is the

first to use a finely sensitized paper instead of film for the development of x-ray negatives.

Through its affiliation with the University of Chicago and Rush Medical college, it boasts one of the finest consulting staffs in the city.

The men now behind Provident hospital expect it to become a great center of medical learning without regard to race or color. Although it is to be largely manned by a Negro staff, its sponsors believe that ultimately it will fulfill its principal mission in distinguished contributions to the science of medicine.

Prominent Women Also Helped

Contemporary with the men donors and indicative of the interest of the influential women of that day, substantial financial support to the hospital was given by Mrs. A. K. Elkins, Mrs. C. A. Sharpe, Mrs. Blackstone and Mrs. Robert Mitchell, whose names, followed later by those of their progeny, constitute the "Who's Who" of metropolitan Chicago and reflect of maternal spirit epitomized in the graceful, heroic feminine figure: "I Will, Chicago."

In the transitional period which separates the remote past from the immediate present, there appeared on the scene in 1915, a young graduate of Harvard university, Alexander L. Jackson, whose nomination to the board of directors of Provident hospital signaled the setting in motion of plans and purposes, both of aggression and progression, all of which have been of great benefit to the hospital's program.

Elected secretary of the board in 1916 and president in 1921, to Mr. Jackson goes the honor and distinction of heading the board of directors whose tenacity of purpose, vision and intelligence found merited consummation in the elaborate ceremonies attendant on Thursday's official opening of Greater Provident Hospital.

CHICAGO, June 9— (By ANP)—Judge Francis Allegretti in the Superior

court of Cook county this week decreed that 100 per cent lien be placed on all the policies of the late Chicago National Life which were taken over by the Pacific States Life of Hollywood, California.

About two years ago the Chicago National Life quit writing colored applicants for insurance and expressed a desire to get rid of all colored policyholders on its books. Negotiations were completed with the Supreme Liberty Life Insurance company which reinsured the \$750,000.00 worth of colored business of the Chicago National giving the policyholders the same right and privileges of cash surrenders, loans and extended insurance as were enjoyed by its own policyholders. Many of the Chicago National policyholders objected to the transfer to the colored company and refused to pay their premiums to the colored company but continued to pay to the white company.

Now those who transferred to Supreme Liberty Life Insurance company have their policies at full face value with no impairments, while those who remained with the Chicago National and are taken over by the Pacific States have a one hundred per cent lien on their policies, which, in the event of the policyholders death, would be deducted from the face value of the policy paid to their beneficiaries.

In this case the prejudiced attitude of the Chicago National saved their colored policyholders a loss. Supreme Liberty Life has already paid to beneficiaries of the policyholders taken over by them over \$28,000 in cash because of the death of these policyholders.

GIVEN HEAVY SENTENCE FOR KILLING NEGRO

JACKSON, Miss., June 7 (ANP)—C. W. Durr and Percy Gibson were sentenced to life imprisonment, and Mrs. Bertha Riley to a five-year term in the state penitentiary, after being convicted of the murder of John Jackson before they threw his body into the flood waters of the Pearl river.

VERBAL SNAPSHOTS

BY W. J. WHEATON

FOR EQUAL RIGHTS

The National Equal Rights League, headquarters at Boston, Mass., has issued a proclamation for the observance, June 18th, of Peter Salem day. The Equal Rights League was founded by Monroe Trotter, militant editor of the ostan Guardian. Peter Salem was one of the Negro heroes of the American Revolution. He was killed at the battle of Bunker Hill in valor in history of the State of Massachusetts. Little mention is made of his exploits in the current school history of the nation and little is known of the prominent part played by Salem and several other Negro men in the first great struggle for American Independence.

A few years past the writer of this column succeeded in arresting the interest of the people and a Peter Salem commemorative meeting was held under the auspices of a fraternal organization. It was held at the Third Baptist church, which at that time was ministered by the Rev. Dr. Elbert Moore, who delivered the oration. We had hoped to perpetuate Peter Salem day as an annual observance, but interest was lacking and like many other things worth-while, "died a bournin." If nothing else, would it be much to hope that one or all of our ministers will make some mention of the superb characters of the Negro race who helped build the foundation on which the stability of our nation rests? There are thousands of Negroes, men, women and children who are unfamiliar with the part played by their forefathers in their fight for American Independence. Such knowledge will inspire in the Negro youth a feeling of national unity; a more prouder interest in the past accomplishments of his race.

EDUCATION THAT SERVES

Knowledge is useless unless it is used for the purpose of dissemination.

Getting an education for the sole purpose of personal benefit, and without the having in mind the ultimate helpfulness of humanity, will be of no more use to the possessor than gold on a desert island would be to a shipwrecked person starving for want of food. Every great contribution to the onward march of civilization has been made by the men and women who subordinated self, Morse, the inventor of the instrument which pioneered our present system of telegraphy; whose first message sent "What has God Wrought?"; thought more of the happiness his invention would bring to humanity than of any financial gain. Stephenson, whose discovery of the potency of steam and who founded the method of rapid transportation, visioned a better understanding among the peoples of the earth through a closer contact brought by travel. Stelameta, the wizard of electricity, whose marvelous brain conquered that subtle fluid and made it the servant of the people, ignored the wealth that might have been his. He used his knowledge for the benefit of mankind. Carver, the noted Negro whose discoveries in chemistry have added to food productivity of the nation, has no more care for the reward than for the care for the reward of self. And so on down the line of civilization benefactors; Edison, Einstein and all the great men who have contributed their knowledge that the people might have the benefit. They thought first of their duty to humanity.

RACE NEEDS MEN AND WOMEN OF SUPERIOR VISION

Of all the people of the earth the American Negro stands in need of the men and women who have been fortunate in obtaining an education. Men and women who seek an education for the purpose of being helpful in moulding the race for future progress. Many Negroes have sought and have obtained a superior education, but instead of asking, "What can I do to help my people?", take the attitude of social superiority because of their erudition and by their aloofness alienate the masses, and become a liability in the struggle for racial progress. The majority of racial collegiate graduates fear that the touch of an illiterate will pollute their intellectual garment. If they deign to recognize their more unfortunate comrades it is done with such a paternal, better than thou, attitude that it is resented, and what ever good may have been accomplished is nullified. The position is assumed that because of the fact that they (The collegian) have been more fortunate than others, that they have a diploma with a suffix or two after their names that are in a position to be and should be patronized. Not what they might do for the race, but what the race must do for them. There is no better illustration than the comparison of two outstanding American Negroes, one of which had the advantage of study at the best university at home and abroad. He was heralded as one of America's most brilliant scholars and that regardless of race. Because of his race he did not receive the recognition that he thought his due. It bittered him. And when he sought to be of service it was done with such a patronizing air that the desire to do something to help his own. He decided that the best way was to get down with them and be one of them. Touch shoulders with them and by precept and example work for their uplift. Did he succeed? Go any where that civilization has foothold and if you do not mention his name just say that you are from the United States of America and they will tell you that they have read the story of his life. Young men and women—Negroes who are coming from the halls of learning, you can be an asset or become a liability. Which One?

GOD BLESS THEM BOTH!

The many friends of Clifford Mitchell will be pleased to know that he will be able to do his writing under more favorable circumstances. Thanks to our old friend Harry Pace who makes it possible. Mr. Mitchell has gained an enviable reputation as a columnist. We dare say that he is more widely read than most who essay to enlighten public. Beginning with the Portland Advocate, Mrs. Beatrice-Cannady-Franklin editor; he has expanded to reach a hundred or more Negro Journals. Good Luck Clifford! God bless you Harry Pace! Is the hope of "Bill" Wheaton.

SLAIN IN PENITENTIARY

COLUMBIA, S. C., June 7 (ANP)—After he is alleged to have cursed a white convict in the work room of the state penitentiary here, Ernest Diggs, serving a life term for manslaughter, was set upon and stabbed five times by the white man, John Reed. Reed died five hours later.

Diggs died five hours later.

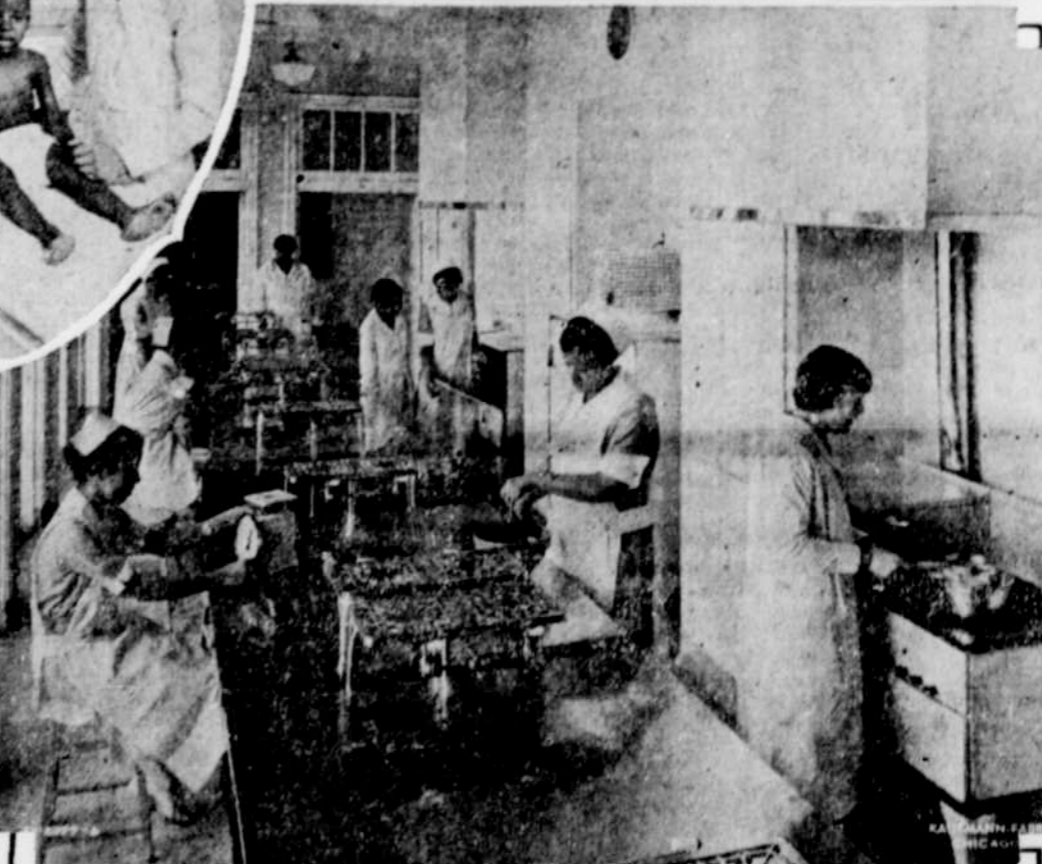
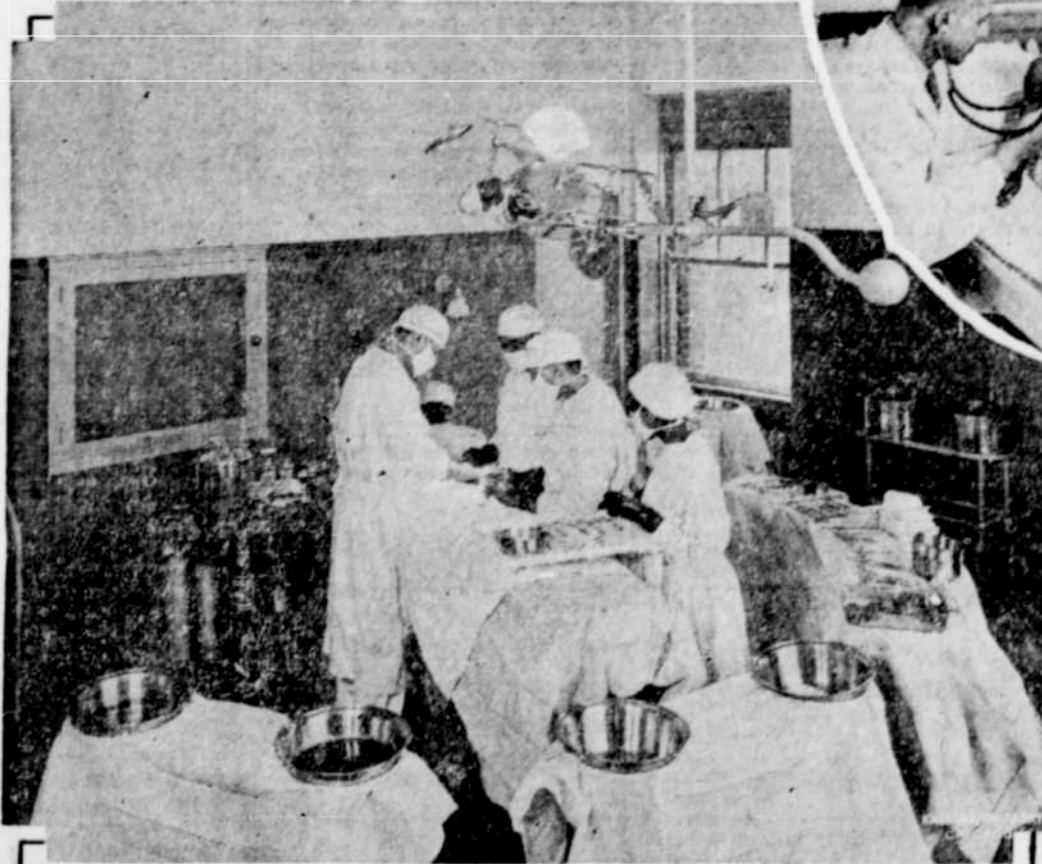
After the stabbing, a call was issued for men willing to submit their blood for transfusion. Twenty-five of the 30 volunteered.

When it became apparent that a transfusion would not save the life of Diggs, the sacrifice was not required on the part of the volunteers.

Reed was placed in solitary confinement pending the inquest.

PAYING POLITICAL DEBTS

"Congressmen who thought they were smart to confiscate the wealth of the nation to pay for their political dissipations were less wise than the Vandals who sacked Rome — Rome was not the home of the Vandals." — Robert R. McCormick.



UPPER LEFT: The Greater Provident hospital, affiliated with the University of Chicago, a \$3,000,000 project promoted through the co-operation of the General Education Board, the Julius Rosenwald Fund and the Hubert Es-

tate and by means of popular subscription; UPPER RIGHT: "An average of two hundred patients per day pass through the out-patient department. Above

scene is of patients waiting to be registered; CENTER: Little Miss Lowell Green looks apprehensive as Dr. Walter Mad-dux, expert in pediatrics, children's

diseases, and Nurse Virginia Mallette minister to her; LOWER LEFT: Dr. Homer Cooper performs a major operation in one of the several finely-equipped operating

rooms; LOWER RIGHT: One of the several clinical laboratories manned by a group of highly trained technicians. — A. N. P.