

Sesqui-Centennial Recognizes Colored Leadership

(By The Associated Negro Press.) Philadelphia, Pa., Aug.—Plans for the great celebration to mark the one hundred and fifty years of American Independence, for some time delayed, seem to be actively taking shape in this, the Quaker City. The selection of a citizen to represent such participation and activities as may be developed with the colored group has just been announced. Much guessing and speculation as a preliminary to the selection was but natural. In fact, many of the "brethren" did not play a waiting game but appointed themselves committees, individual representatives, and what not to formally advise the Sesqui-Centennial Association officials as to who should take charge of affairs so far as the colored people in America were concerned. Happily, however, the President of the association, Mayor W. Freeland Kendrick, having charge of the celebration for which millions of dollars are to be expended, just recently notified the Hon. John C. Asbury, president of the Keystone Cooperative Bank of Philadelphia, that it was a pleasure to appoint him as chairman of the committee "to represent the colored race." The recognition of the Negro as a factor in the celebration is fully appreciated and the selection of Mr. Asbury is equally justified. He represents a progressive group in Philadelphia's colored population and is well-known nationally. His record as a member of the state legislature, his pioneer service in business enterprises, particularly as head of the Keystone Aid Society, an insurance company, has been creditable. Mr. Asbury is a lawyer. He was assistant city solicitor here from 1917 to 1921. In fraternal connections his activities are akin to the morning dew. They cover prominent connection with the Masonic, Elks, Odd Fellows and more. His interest in welfare and education is indicated by his responsibilities for the Downtown School and the Mercy Hospital and School for Nurses.

So, the colored people are well represented by a leader of this type in the celebration marking the century and a half of American Independence. Who will be the associates of Hon. Asbury in executing the plans and directing the program of Negro participation in this mammoth exposition? The skirmishers are already scouting, despite the fact that Asbury's own appointment is but a few days old. The hope is expressed on all sides, however, that announcement of the outline of the general program the selection of first-class assistants to head the necessary bureaus and securing the cooperation of leaders throughout the country may be hastened. The celebration scheduled for 1926 is the nature of things not far off. So far it is understood that several large national organizations will plan to meet in Philadelphia in 1926 as all roads will lead to the Sesqui-Centennial Exhibitions, displays of art, manufacture and invention will from part of the attraction, that will make Pennsylvania the center of attraction for tourists, and visitors the coming year. Mayor Kendrick and his appointee, Mr. Asbury can do much toward making the participation of colored Americans creditable and comfortable.

MISS CHARLOTTE GARNER MEANS KILLED IN AN AUTOMOBILE WRECK

(By Seymour Carroll.) Greenville, S. C., Aug. 10.—With her skull crushed at its base when the large Nash automobile in which she and a party of her little school friends were riding a few miles from the city yesterday, little Charlotte Garner Means, the 16 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Means on Church street, this city died on her way to the hospital early last night about 8 o'clock.

Sunday afternoon about six o'clock Thomas Brown, Jr., a student of the South Carolina State College at Orangeburg, Charles F. Gandy, Jr., student at Union University, Richmond, Va., Miss Edna Mae Biggs, student at Wilberforce University, Ohio and little Charlotte Garner Means motored out to see some little friends at Traveler's Rest in the northern section of the State. Charlotte is a student at the Girl's High School, Philadelphia, Pa., where she has been attending school for the last two years, made up the party to see some friends who were teaching summer schools in the rural districts of the county. They had made their visit when the large Nash car in which they were riding plunged over an embankment, turning over three or four times, as they attempted to turn a curve in the road. The boys not being used to the car with four wheel brakes, the car left the main road, carrying the party with it, burying the little folks beneath it in the dust and dirt.

Charles Gandy pulled himself up and then he was able to get little Charlotte up from under the car, laying her on his coat, when a passing motorist stopped and rushed the injured to a Greenville hospital ten miles away. It was while enroute to the hospital that little Charlotte Garner Means, high school girl student passed away.

Just how the occupants of the car escaped death as the heavy machine madly rolled over and over again is a mystery to the large number who viewed the scene of the wreck and saw the situation. Charlotte, it seems was the first to be tossed from the on-rolling car, within the twinkling of an eye, she was followed by Miss Biggs and Mr. Brown and Mr. Gandy all of whom received serious injuries and painful scalp wounds.

SAD FOR GREENVILLE

The city of Greenville is in an uproar with the death of the little Means child. On every corner in the city, white and colored people are pouring out the blessings of the passing of a very sweet little character. All day long a long line has filed in thru the Means' home, paying their tribute of respect to the noble little life that twelve hours ago was the flower of her mother's soul.

Mrs. Means was at home alone when the death messenger rang the door bell, smiling in her usual way, she greeted her friends and was told that Charlotte had met with a serious accident in an auto while out riding, and had been rushed to the hospital. At the hospital the grief-stricken mother was confronted by the

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BROWN AND STEVEN'S BANK SOLD AT AUCTION FOR \$94,000

(By The Associated Negro Press.) Philadelphia, Pa., Aug.—The property at the northwest corner of Broad and Lombard streets, formerly occupied by Brown and Stevens, Bankers, was offered by the sheriff at a public sale on Monday, August 3rd, on foreclosure of one of the mortgages.

The property, a very good-looking one, consists of twenty-one feet on Broad street, by ninety-three feet on Lombard street, to an alley, and is improved by a three-story building, the top of which contains three apartments. Two offices occupy the second floor, the first floor the bank and a side office.

Ninety-four thousand dollars was the consideration for which the building was sold, and it is considered by real estate operators to be a big price. There were a number of persons interested in the property, and the bidding was rather sharp. None of this money goes to the estate, as the property had been mortgaged up to \$185,000, and there was not enough money to pay the mortgages. The property was carrying six mortgages, and the Philadelphia Investors holding a second mortgage foreclosed. The property was bought by John M. Ditterer of Wayne, Pa. The terms of the sale were ten percent at the time of bidding the entire sum to be paid within twenty-one days after the date of the sale.

The sale of this property was somewhat different from the sale of the property at 5335 Market street, which was mortgaged far in excess of its valuation. The attorney on the writ took it over. Because of the large amounts of mortgages to which it was encumbered, no one would bid thereon, and the attorney took it over.

Judge Dickerson of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania has (August 5) granted permission to the receivers to sell through Samuel T. Freeman, Auctioneers, on Wednesday, August 19, all the furniture, office fixtures, including typewriters, chairs, filing cabinets, adding and bookkeeping machines, etc.

UNROOF HUTS IN FIGHTING BUBONIC PLAGUE

(By The Associated Negro Press.) New York, Aug.—The Rev. Robert Shields, missionary of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Loanda, Africa, reports that the health authority of the Portuguese government has ordered all owners of native huts in villages which suffered from the bubonic plague last year to tear down and burn up their thatched roofs. It seems that these old gross roofs are a favored lurking place of the rats which carry the plague. Hundreds of villages are now recovering their roofs with new grass, and Mr. Shields thinks that this sanitary measure will prove effective in preventing a return of the plague this year.

INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE OF NEGROES OCCUPIES ELEGANT NEW HEADQUARTERS

Philadelphia, Pa., Aug.—The newly equipped executive offices of the International Alliance of Negroes will celebrate the first anniversary of its opening of headquarters here in its newly acquired home at 1330 Lombard street. The entire building, which is three stories high, will be devoted to the business of the Alliance. The building is elegantly furnished and is equipped with modern fixtures for doing business. There is an efficient working staff of stenographers and clerks, and busy messengers. The building is centrally located.

Dr. Lionel A. Francis, well-known throughout these parts, is founder and supreme president of the Alliance. Dr. Francis first came into prominence in this city during his association with the Universal Negro Improvement Association as its Philadelphia president. His helpful service in this connection was pronounced to an astounding degree, for here he conducted as a chain enterprise a medical and dental clinic, a legal dispensary and other agencies, unknown in the various U. N. I. A. branches.

Dr. Francis enters his work knowingly and well-prepared, having received his training both in America and abroad. He is a product of Howard, Edinburgh, and Sarbonne. Because of his high standard of training and his proven ability in organizational work, he was unanimously chosen fiscal agent to the Joint Committee to the Sesqui-Centennial International Exposition in which he is now playing an active part.

ST. CECELIA TRIO SINGS OVER RADIO

(By The Associated Negro Press.) Philadelphia, Pa., Aug.—Radio fans were particularly privileged on Friday evening of last week when it was announced that Philadelphia's celebrated trio would render a selection. Reference was made to St. Cecilia Trio, and Lawrence Nicholson was at the piano. The singing of this trio is always enjoyable feature on any concert program, and it is acknowledged to be the best of its kind in musical circles for miles around. So harmoniously do their voices blend!

Miss Edyth Clayton, soprano, Miss Iola Mitchell, mezzo-contralto, and Miss Lelia Fisher, contralto, make up this trio.

NORTH CAROLINA LEADS IN COLORED SCHOOLS

(By The Associated Negro Press.) Raleigh, N. C., Aug.—North Carolina, leading all other southern states, has 494 Rosenwald schools and fourteen teachers' homes, representing a total expenditure of \$2,319,053, according to A. L. Smith, general field agent of the Julius Rosenwald Fund. The nearest competitor, so far as the Rosenwald schools are concerned, is Mississippi, which is mighty bad in many other ways.

TO TRAIN NEGRO SOPRANO FOR GRAND OPERA.

New York, N. Y., Aug.—Twenty-four of the best Negro soprano voices to be found in this section of the country will compete in a public audition and recital to be held in Town Hall, 113-123 West Forty-third St., Friday evening, August 7, for the free course of instruction in grand opera offered by Edoardo Ferrari-Fontana, noted tenor, who won fame overnight in the Metropolitan Opera House when he appeared there in 1914 in "L'Amore die tre re."

Mr. Fontana's decision will be made immediately following the recital and operatic training of the successful contestant started at once. He hopes to present the winner in "Aida," one of several operatic compositions in which a Negro voice can be used to advantage.

The affair is being conducted under the auspices of the Amsterdam News, a local Negro weekly, whose editor, William M. Kelley, is directly in charge of the affair. Mrs. Alice P. Reed, 2313 Seventh Avenue, a colored woman having extensive realty holdings in Harlem, is the financial backer of the project.

The names of the contestants are Margarite Avery, 137 W. 141st St., Muriel Battey, 28 W. 140th St., Clarissa D. Blue, 61 W. 130th St., Lillian Brown, 100 W. 143rd St., Vernisia Collins, 233 W. 148th St., Helen Dowdy, 158 W. 62d St., Malvina Edness, 117-119 W. 142d St., Lucille N. Ford, 259 W. 153rd St., Winifred Gordon, 210 Lexington Ave., Brooklyn, Marjorie T. Harris, 299 W. 144th St., Ester F. Hayes, 34-36 W. 129th St., Helen A. Heartwell, 157 W. 141st St., Sybil Elsie Hunt, 34 W. 136th St., Olga Emeas Mason, 53 Bradford Ave., Flushing L. I., Ruth Lee McAbee, 1225 W. Lafayette Ave., Baltimore, Md., Rose Margetson, 216 W. 149th St., Nettie B. Olden, 2340 Seventh Ave., V. Beatrice Robinson, 39 W. 135th St., Ida Roley, 220 W. 134th St., Blanche Russell, 371 Lexington Ave., Brooklyn, Helen A. Sherill, 2209 Seventh Ave., Juanita Stewart, 347 Quincy St., Brooklyn, Ada Wardell, 154 Gates Ave., Brooklyn, Jessie A. Zachary, 2369 Seventh Avenue.

CHURCH GOES BROKE

(By The Associated Negro Press.) New York, N. Y., Aug.—Mount Calvary Independent Methodist Church gained the unenviable distinction this week of being the first church to ever record a petition in bankruptcy in the local federal court. The church is, or was, an incorporated institution. Liabilities were given as \$345,781 and assets as \$270,225.

INDICTED FOR MURDER

(By The Associated Negro Press.) Washington, D. C., Aug.—Indictments charging murder were returned by the grand jury this week against Raymond C. Batson and William L. A. Lumpkins, following the death of Mrs. Batson. Batson was attempting to shoot the alleged lover of his wife when she threw herself in the way of the bullet and perished. Lumpkins slew Levy Washington in a street fight.

COLLECTOR NICHOLS APPOINTS COLORED STENO.

(By The Associated Negro Press.) Boston, Mass., Aug.—On recommendation of William C. Matthews, Malcolm E. Nichols today appointed Miss Irma Pack a stenographer in the Department of Internal Revenue. Miss Pack's appointment was sanctioned by Senator William M. Butler.

Miss Pack is a graduate of the Class of 1923 of the Girls' High School. She is a very efficient stenographer, and has been assisting Mrs. Newman at the Settlement House of St. Mark's Church. She lives at 504 Shawmut Avenue.

Mr. Nichols has also appointed Miss Doris Dandridge of Cambridge, a niece of Mr. Charles H. Sheppard, as a Clerk. Like Miss Pack, Miss Dandridge is a recent graduate of the Girls' School.

Mrs. Charles E. Newman has been promoted to a position of Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue, while two other colored appointees have been assigned to the Warehouse Department. All of these appointments have had the indorsement of Senator William M. Butler.

Bishop Beckett Coming.

The Rt. Rev. W. W. Beckett, recently appointed to preside over the diocese of South Carolina, A. M. E. Church, succeeding the late Bishop W. D. Chappelle, deceased, will hold his first Presiding Elders' Council at Allen University on Tuesday, August 18. The Bishop will be accompanied by the Rev. Dr. S. J. Johnson, Secretary of the Church Extension, A. M. E. Church.

On Tuesday evening, August 18, at 8:30 o'clock, Bishop Beckett and Dr. Johnson will be at Bethel A. M. E. Church. One or both will speak at this meeting.

On Sunday morning, August 23, at 11 o'clock, Bishop Beckett will preach at Bethel Church. He is a great and forceful preacher and it will be an unusual treat for everybody who will make it convenient to hear him.

The public is cordially invited to attend.

DEMAND DURKEE'S RESIGNATION.

(By The Associated Negro Press.) Washington, D. C., Aug.—Students and alumni of Howard University, headed by Dr. George Fraser Miller, New York, President of the general alumni association of the University, demanded the resignation of Dr. Stanley Durkee as president of the University and as a member of its board of trustees, in a mass meeting held at the new Bethel Baptist Church. It is reported that a general strike of students would result if the demands were not acceded to by September.

NORTH CAROLINA FARMERS HOLD MEETING

(By The Associated Negro Press.) Raleigh, N. C., Aug.—More than five hundred farmers attended the annual meeting of the North Carolina Negro Farmers' Congress, which closed its three day session here at the St. Augustine School, Friday. The Meeting, according to reports, was one of the most successful in the history of the association and the farmers returned to their work determined to follow the lines of scientific farming. Livestock raising and diversified farming were stressed by all speakers.