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## OLDER BOY'S CONFERENCE IN COLUMBIA

### MEETINGS AT BENEDICT COLLEGE

Under the Auspices of The State Young Men's Christian Association

FEBRUARY 26, 27, 28, 1926

B. E. Mays Delivers Principal Address At Conference Subject: "The Goal."

(McGhee News Service)

- Who is B. E. Mays!
- 1. A. B., Bates College, Maine, A. M., University of Chicago.
- 2. Two years on Bates College's Debating team.
- 3. First permanent Chairman of University of Chicago Inter-racial Discussion group composed chiefly of whites.
- 4. Served Morehouse College, Atlanta, Ga., as Head of Dept. of Psychology and Dean of College Dept. three years.
- 5. At present Head of Dept. of English, State A. & M. College, Orangeburg, and President of the State College Alumni Assn.

Were I to talk to you about the physical goal, that little white line that contending teams defend and fight to cross; were I to speak of the homeplate in baseball, that little rubber cushion that every runner seeks to touch; you would readily and clearly understand what I mean by the goal. In fact, the football goal can be seen with naked eye. It can be touched with the physical hand. No doubt, you have seen Benedict College defend that little white line as the allies defended Verdun; perhaps you have seen Allen University fight as though the sky would fall, if they crossed not the goal. You must have also heard the cheers, the roars and the yells of the grand stand, urging its team to victory. Surely you have seen the excited multitude go wild with enthusiasm as some one made a touch down. These things are too familiar to be further explained.

But this goal of life, this goal that you have asked me to speak about, is not so easily defined. It cannot be seen with the naked eye; neither can it be touched with the physical hand. It cannot be thoroughly demonstrated; thus, if I do not make clear to you just what the goal of life is you must sympathize. The task is just too difficult that's all.

But were I white, and held a Professor's chair in the University of South Carolina; were you white, and represented the best white schools of this commonwealth; my task would not be so difficult. We would then be clothed in that skin that gives perpetual protection. We would then represent that group that holds the destiny of this Nation in its hand, and to whom the doors of opportunity are never closed. Were this true, I would define the goal without limitations. I would recommend that you aspire to be Governor of your native State. I would point the way to the President's chair. But as it is, Americans though we be, I must speak to you not as an American to Americans but as a Negro to Negroes. Young boys, for this lamentable fact I pause to apologize.

Yes, we are Americans; we are South Carolinians; we are Negroes. And I make no apologies for being an American. I am proud of it. Neither do I make any apologies for being a South Carolinian. I tell that everywhere I go. I cannot apologize for being a Negro. We have a great history, and we have a greater future. But there can be no denying that the rules of this game, though laid down for Americans, we must play it with handicaps and restrictions. It is this thing that makes the goal difficult for me to define. But boys whatever the restrictions are, I have a rendezvous with South Carolina; we have a rendezvous with America; we must not fail that rendezvous.

Though the game of life may be compared with a football game, in many respects, the two games differ. For example, in the football game, Continued on Page 8

## OHIO SUPREME COURT BAR SEGREGATION

### CHICAGO LEADS IN NUMBER RACE LAWYERS

#### 95 RACE LAWYERS IN CHICAGO

539 IN CITIES HAVING A POPULATION OF 100,000 OR MORE

NEW YORK 2; DETROIT, 3.

Other Cities With Respective Number of Colored Lawyers Are Found In Article Below

Statistics show that there are 95 colored lawyers in American cities having a population of 100,000 or more and that among these cities Chicago leads with 539. New York is second with 50, Detroit third with 32, Baltimore fourth with 27 and Indianapolis fifth with 26.

Other cities in the list include Boston, 16; Columbus, Ohio, 14; Memphis and Philadelphia each 13; Richmond, Va., and St. Louis Mo., 12; Kansas City, Kan., 11; and Los Angeles and Louisville each 10.

#### PAUL ROBESON HAS TRIUMPH SINGING SPIRITUALS

MOVES AUDIENCE TO TEARS LAUGHTER AND DEMANDS FOR REPETITIONS

Paul Robeson, accompanied by Larence Brown, in a program of Negro Spirituals, achieved a triumph in Chicago on Feb. 10, according to reports and clippings received by the N. A. A. C. P. The musical critic of the Chicago Herald and Examiner wrote that Robeson's voice was "one of the most beautiful in the world" and said the singer "moved his listeners to tears, to laughter and to shouted demands for repetitions."

The Chicago Evening Post critic wrote of the singing: "It is a something the Negro has in his heart that no other race can touch. There was nothing that savored of vocal effect, but all seemed to flow spontaneously from the very spirit of the thing. Lawrence Brown gave him just the right kind of support at the piano and added many fine singing bits himself."

The Chicago Daily Journal critic reported that "Robeson sang his songs last night with a voice of unusual beauty" and that "his singing of them seemed perfectly spontaneous, just as his vocal equipment appeared to be as natural as it was fine."

The Chicago Daily Tribune's critic: "It was undoubtedly the mellowest, gentlest, most appealing voice of the year, that of Paul Robeson's at the Orchestra Hall last night. . . . Here were two greatly talented and highly skilled artists. Their program was a delight."

Chicago Evening American: "For these two men are genuine artists—and their singing, to Brown's playing, is something more than art, while it is as well delightful and stimulating diversion. And they carry the public with them every step of the way."

### N. A. A. C. P. WINS BOND IN 4 YEAR FIGHT

#### URGE THE ANTI-LYNCHING LAW

#### THIRTY YEARS OF LYNCHING

J. W. JOHNSON PLEADS BEFORE SUB COMMITTEE ON ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

3,559 LYNCHED SINCE 1889

Mr. Johnson Pointed Out That Rape Was Not The First Crime to Provoke Lynching

At a meeting of a sub-committee, appointed by the Committee on the Judiciary of the U. S. Senate, to hold a hearing on the McKinley-Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, in the National Capitol on Tuesday, Feb. 16, James Weldon Johnson, Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, presented arguments for the enactment of the measure into law.

Mr. Johnson presented "Thirty Years of Lynching," with supplements to date, the first and only authoritative compilation on the subject in this country, published by the N. A. A. C. P. Mr. (Continued on page Two.)

#### TO ALL THE TEACHERS IN COLORED SCHOOLS IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Greetings: My dear Coworkers and friends:—

This comes to you as a message of cheer and a reminder that the time of our State Association is less than one month off. The many pleasant memories of last year and previous years force us to look forward with joyful anticipation to our meeting in Columbia, March 18th to 20th. In fact you should be present at the first popular meet on the night of the 17th. Get there when "THE BALL BEGINS TO ROLL."

Our efficient secretary, Prof. Myers, informs us that many gratifying reports are coming in from various sections of the State. But I am reminded that there are some who need more encouragement, hence this letter. If you are already enrolled, pass this information along to the next one who may not be.

Our aim this session is "to be a little better than the best yet recorded." We all desire that and we all must unite our efforts to that end.

Our executive committee has arranged an A-1 program in every respect. The local committee guarantees up-to-the-minute hospitality. WILL YOU BE THERE? YES.

Those who were present last year, owe it to themselves to come again this year and bring along others who have never attended. Increase our ideal membership and the facilities for carrying the work to success.

Don't you think we are almost ready for that central registration bureau for placement of teachers where needed? Come and say what you think of it. Help us work out a tentative plan for general professional improvement. COME and meet your State Superintendent of Education and other officials in the State Department of Education. Hear them speak and ask them questions about the work. Get your information direct and carry it out to those who may seek it of you. WE NEED YOU. WE NEED YOUR PRESENCE, YOUR MONEY AND THE ASSOCIATION OF YOUR IDEAS.

Yours for the greater efforts of humanity, C. A. Lawson, President.

#### GIRL'S ATTACKERS INDICTED

SPEEDY TRIAL URGED

New York, Feb. 25—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue, today received word by telephone from its attorney, Alan Dingle, that the Bronx County Grand Jury had indicted in second degree rape, the white attackers of a fourteen year old colored girl who had been held for three days in a barn and who subsequently died in a hospital. The girl had come from Virginia to New York to go to school and was staying with her aunt and uncle.

The N. A. A. C. P. brought the girl's mother from Virginia, paying her expenses, in order that she might identify the girl's body and testify as to her age. The prosecutor has announced he will press for a very early trial.

To aid in prosecuting the white rapists, the Colored Women's Protective League of the Bronx, composed mainly of colored women who earn their own living, has contributed \$40.

Mrs. I. A. Houston, President of the Bronx Colored Women's Protective League, Mrs. Louisa A. Jeter and Mrs. P. B. Walker, were constituted a delegation to call at the National office of the N. A. A. C. P., present the contribution and express the appreciation of the Protective League for the activity of the N. A. A. C. P. in the case.

#### Gov. McLean Visits A. & T. College

Greensboro, N. C., Feb. 20—Governor Angus Wilton McLean while in the city on official business, inspected the plant of A. & T. College. After a short conference with President Bluford, Gov. McLean went on an inspection tour of the main buildings of the campus. Gov. McLean congratulated President Bluford on his administration of the college. He expressed himself as being highly pleased with the affairs of the college and manifested unusual interest in the type of work that is being carried on by the Negro Institution. The Governor is of the opinion that vocational education, not only for the Negro race, but for all races, is the only means by which the races can reach and maintain a strong material fortification. President Bluford was highly gratified over Governor McLean's expression of approval of the present administration and evident demonstration of interest in the education of the Negro constituency of North Carolina.

#### Senator Capper Thinks Anti-Intermarriage Bill Cannot Pass

Also Opposes District Of Columbia "Jim Crow" Bill

Senator Arthur Capper of Kansas, member of the Board of Directors of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, has written to the District of Columbia Branch of the Association giving assurance of his opposition to the Anti-Intermarriage Bill.

"In my opinion," writes Senator Capper to Neval H. Thomas, president of the Branch, "there is no probability that it will be seriously considered at this session of Congress."

I am against the Jim Crow Bill There is no probability that this bill will be seriously considered."

#### Jealous, Kills Wife

Columbus O., Feb. 25—Because his wife, Corinne, 18, had been receiving attentions from other men William Trotter, 23 killed her by cutting her throat. —Pittsburgh Courier

#### WAS SENTENCED TO DEATH IN 1922

Convicted And Sentenced To Death For Assault On White Woman

#### IN 1924 JURY DISAGREED

N. A. A. C. P. Has Obtained His Freedom From Jail On \$2,500 Bond.

After a series of legal battles beginning in 1922, the Houston, Texas, Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, has obtained freedom from jail under \$2,500 bond for Luther Collins, originally charged with assault, and sentenced to death. His death sentence was reversed by the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, and Collins was again tried in 1924, the jury failing to agree after 40 hours deliberation.

Collins was then tried again and given life imprisonment. On appeal from this decision, the Court of Criminal Appeals remanded the case for another trial. Venue was changed to Washington County where it is now proposed to try him March 8.

The Houston N. A. A. C. P. has stubbornly and relentlessly fought this series of local battles in the Texas Courts, convinced of the innocence of Luther Collins of the crime charged against him.

In making public this newest development the N. A. A. C. P. pointed out that there can be little doubt of Collins' innocence when he, a Negro, being tried in Texas for rape of a white woman, had one jury unable to agree, another unwilling to give him the death penalty, had two reversals of convictions from the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, and now secures release on nominal bond after four years of imprisonment.

#### WOULD SEGREGATE IN SCHOOLS

NEGROES NOW ADMITTED TO SAME CLASSES USED BY WHITE STUDENTS

#### EARL REESE BEGAN FIGHT

Decision Outlaws Segregation Of Colored Children In Schools Of The State

New York, Feb. 24—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue, has received word of a decision by the Supreme Court of Ohio ordering the Dayton Board of Education and the Local Superintendent to admit Negro children to the same classes and buildings used by white children at the Garfield School, in Dayton. This decision affirms the decision of the Montgomery County Court of Appeals which had ruled against segregation as a result of a contest begun by a colored citizen, Earl Reese.

The decision outlaws segregation of colored children in the schools of the State. It follows a similar case, fought a year ago by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in the Willard School, where it had been sought to place colored children in classes in the school basement and to make them enter the building through a rear entrance.

The N. A. A. C. P. sent Robert W. Bagnall, its Director of Branches to Dayton; worked in conjunction with the Parents' Protective Association, held meetings and helped to raise funds for the struggle. The Dayton Branch of the N. A. A. C. P., through Rev. J. N. Samuels-Belboder, has taken an active part in fighting these cases. The Ohio Supreme Court decision is based on a similar ruling made by the Court 38 years ago in similar cases originating in Hamilton and Butler Counties.

#### NEGRO DELEGATES IN JIM CROW SEATS

May Not Attend Sunday School Convention.

Birmingham, Ala., Feb. 19—Negro delegates to the International Sunday School Convention here in April will be confined to seats in the gallery of the City Auditorium and not permitted to mingle with white delegates, by an ordinance adopted by the City Committee last week. Two of the three Commissioners were elected on a Klan ticket, the other on an anti-Klan ticket.

President Coolidge is to address the conference April 15.

#### Policeman In Prison For Killing Race Man

Albany, N. Y., Feb. 25.—Monroe West, Albany policeman, was Wednesday sentenced to seven years in prison following his conviction of first degree manslaughter in connection with the death of Asbury Murray during a liquor raid several months ago. —Pittsburgh Courier