



# ORACLE

OCTOBER • 1938

41207



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# The ORACLE

EDITOR

FREDERICK S. WEAVER  
920 U STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON, D. C.



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Officially published quarterly by the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., at 920 U Street, Northwest, Washington, D.C., during the months of March, June, October and December, and entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at Washington, D.C., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

SINGLE COPIES THIRTY CENTS

ONE DOLLAR YEARLY

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# TIME EXTENDED FOR ANNUAL ESSAY CONTEST

*in connection with*

## The National Negro Achievement Week Project

*sponsored by*

## The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

NOVEMBER 6-13 (inclusive), 1938

In connection with the NATIONAL NEGRO ACHIEVEMENT WEEK program, conducted under the auspices of THE OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, an essay contest is announced, the purposes of which are three-fold:

*First:* to allow the young academic groups in the high schools and colleges throughout the nation to become conscious of the participation of the Negro in the varied fields of national endeavor;

*Second:* to serve as an outlet for any latent talent that might exist among such students;

*Third:* to inspire in the students the desire to present a scholarly and penetrating analysis of any research problem.

### RULES OF THE CONTEST

- Subject:** The Negro and the Field of Journalism. The subject permits a varied development which is left to the contestants' ingenuity.
- Eligibility:** The contest is open to high school and under-graduate college students. Certification of this fact must accompany each manuscript.
- Manuscript:** The manuscript must contain a minimum of at least fifteen hundred words (1500) and a maximum of not more than twenty-five hundred words (2500).  
The manuscript must not have been previously published or copyrighted in any form.  
Each page of the manuscript must be numbered.  
Two copies of the manuscript must be submitted.  
No manuscript will be returned.  
The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity reserves the right to publish in part or in total any manuscript.
- Time:** Each manuscript must be submitted before October 25, 1938.
- Judges:** The names of the judges appear on page 7. The decision of the judges will be final.
- Awards:** Awards will be declared in both the high school and the college group.

### HIGH SCHOOL GROUP AWARDS

- 1st—\$15.00 and Negro Year Book (1 year)  
2nd—\$10.00 and Journal of Negro Education (1 year)  
3rd—Any Negro Newspaper, contestant's choice (1 year)  
4th—Any Negro Newspaper, contestant's choice (1 year)  
5th—Any Negro Newspaper, contestant's choice (1 year)  
6th—Any Negro Newspaper, contestant's choice (1 year)  
7th—Any Negro Newspaper, contestant's choice (1 year)  
8th—Any Negro Newspaper, contestant's choice (1 year)

### COLLEGE GROUP AWARDS

- 1st—\$25.00 and Negro Year Book (1 year)  
2nd—\$15.00 and Journal of Negro Education (1 year)  
3rd—Any Negro Newspaper, contestant's choice (1 year)  
4th—Any Negro Newspaper, contestant's choice (1 year)  
5th—Any Negro Newspaper, contestant's choice (1 year)  
6th—Any Negro Newspaper, contestant's choice (1 year)  
7th—Any Negro Newspaper, contestant's choice (1 year)  
8th—Any Negro Newspaper, contestant's choice (1 year)

For further information address:

BARRINGTON D. PARKER

Dillard University

New Orleans, La.

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# THE ORACLE SPEAKS

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## FRATERNALISM VS. BARBARISM

**B**ROTHERS,

We who took the sacred vow with you,  
We who say that vow  
Was more than a scrap of paper,  
More than empty words  
Repeated in thoughtless agreement—  
Brothers,  
We speak from the Shrine of Omega,  
Speak out of that sacred vow  
And the fulness of our hearts;  
Brothers,  
Shall we crash on the Rocks of Barbarism?  
Shall the good ship OMEGA,  
Triumphant o'er Reef and Flood and Gale,  
Sink in the Typhoon of Savagery created,  
Not by an alien foe,  
But by our own Deeds of Violence?  
Brothers,  
Shall we take the traitor's knife,  
The Knife of Brutus  
And stab, stab,  
Stab the Honor of OMEGA?  
Shall we take the tainted silver,  
The thirty dirty pieces,  
And play the hated role of Judas?  
Far nobler 'tis to clean one's House  
Than leave it to the hands,  
The ruthless Hands of Public Opinion!

The evolution of man from the pithecanthropus erectus to our patrons of the ORACLE, covers thousands and thousands of years. If the editorial and literary staff of the ORACLE were to give a name to this history of mankind, we would call it "From Savagery to Civilization."

What has that to do with Omega? Wherein lies the challenge to Omega men? Well, bear with us a moment. We have selected the subject of this editorial with utter carefulness. Perhaps the founding Brothers of Omega never imagined that the time would come when Omega men would be compelled to choose between Fraternalism and Barbarism.

But the House of Omega is divided over this issue; and we remember the immortal words of Abraham Lincoln, speaking out of his heart to the forces of darkness in the ante-bellum South: "A house divided against itself cannot stand!"

In other words, Omega is no place for weaklings. Neither is it the abode of brutes and sadists. Omega houses gentlemen with a capital G! You must be a *Gentleman* before you are a *Brother*.

During the past year one national fraternity was put on the spot in the Negro press for its brutal initiations. That should have been a warning to sensible men. Here was a case of a student seriously injured from a mortal beating. College and university faculties became aroused and educators over the country denounced publicly this exhibition of barbarism.

Conclave after Conclave has met and adjourned, during which we adopted resolutions expressing opposition to brutality in initiations, and made our action known through publicity in the press.

Yet, letters are coming into this office from Brothers on many campuses and others in high places complaining about the barbarities of certain chapters whose names we will not call at this time.

We have before us a letter from a mother who wrote an article to the *Washington Tribune*, asking that something be done to protect her son. We have cases of students unable to attend their classes because of these brutalities.

It's a clear issue of Fraternalism versus Barbarism. No group can be any bigger than the public will let it be. Put that in your pipe and smoke it. When the general public and intelligent persons speak, it's time for any group to listen.

We said, in the beginning, that it's a long way from the primitive man to ORACLE readers: the former standing for savagery and ignorance; the latter for civilization and culture. But when we see these outcroppings of jungleland on the college campus, we wonder if some of the Brothers have traveled as far as the standards of Omega demand.

Brutality is not a cardinal principle of Omega. In fact, it is contrary to and diametrically opposed to the letter and spirit of our brotherhood. It is below the dignity of our fraternity to give newcomers the "third degree" as if Omega were the police department of Washington, D.C.

Brutal initiations must go!

Never before in the history of college fraternities have we had so much adverse criticism from

## THE ORACLE SPEAKS

so many different sources. The Voice of the People is hurling at us the challenge: On what grounds do Greek letter organizations justify their existence?

Not long ago a group of probates from a fraternity pledge club walked off of probation because of too much alleged brutality during the probationary period. They immediately organized a counter fraternity, called it "Gamma Tau," featuring initiations without paddles. The newspapers took up their cause and supported their revolt against brutal initiations, snobbishness and do-nothing-ism. First-hand-information from that campus discloses the fact that for the first time the Greeks realized how weak were

their foundation. No, you can't fool all the people all the time!

We are at the cross-roads. There in front of us is the red light of public opinion. If our brothers were being attacked in their defense of a principle worthy of defense, the ORACLE would stand back of them until the Sahara Desert became as cold as the North Pole.

But a lawyer with the astuteness of a Clarence Darrow, the eloquence of a Daniel Webster, the integrity of an Abraham Lincoln—such a legal genius could not defend, successfully, the case of brutal initiations.

Our fraternity is no place for any manifestations of brutality. Manhood, with all of its implications, is one of our cardinal attributes. We as Omega men must observe it.

---

## FRATERNITY POETS

. . . . .

### To a Black Coal Miner

**T**HE CARBIDE lamp

On your forehead  
Is a gleaming star  
And the ebony walls  
Around you  
Are blacker than  
The Jungles  
Through which your  
Ancestors wandered.

Life, for you, too,  
Is a Jungle  
You must battle  
With falling slate,  
Black damp,  
Not to mention  
Greedy mine owners.  
You should be thankful  
That God in  
His Infinite Wisdom  
Has placed on  
Your forehead  
A gleaming star!

—THOMAS FORTUNE FLETCHER.

### Lamps of Omega

(Tune: "In The Gloaming.")

**W**E ARE LAMPS of dear Omega,  
Fighting hard to reach our goal.  
Fighting hard to walk the road  
That men have gone both young and old.  
We shall keep our lamps well lighted,  
Spreading radiance of love;  
Giving out the light of friendship  
Bathed in glory from above.

God, give unto us great courage,  
Give us faith and make us strong;  
That we who are within this band  
May not fail as we go 'long.  
Keep the soldiers of this army  
Moving, guided by Thy Hand—  
May we march across the desert  
And enter dear Omega's land.

—REGINALD J. DANIELS

*Xi Psi Chapter.*



# GREEK LETTER ORGANIZATIONS-- YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW . . .

• BY ANDREW POLK WATSON

**W**HEN GREEK letter organizations first made their appearances on Negro college campuses more than two decades ago, everybody



WATSON

who was anybody was supposed to become a member. The fact that there were varied ideas, ideals, tastes, interests, and temperaments to satisfy gave rise to various Greek-letter organizations all with fundamentally the same ideas, namely—brotherhood, scholarship, high moral, and ethical principles, etc., differing only in ritual and ceremony designed to give individuality and distinctiveness.

In brief, these organizations at first were looked upon as channels through which there might come a new heaven and a new earth not only to college students, but to society in general as the novices graduated and left the college campus to take their places in society. But, and this "but" is fatal, a careful check today is no less than startling in its revelation as to negative results; for instead of serving as means to an end—namely, the fostering of a spirit of fellowship and co-operativeness among cowered and brow-beaten students—these organizations have given rise to sundry cliques and intrigues.

The outmoded philosophy of the midvictorian age, rugged individualism, is the order of the day. At a time when social consciousness in its broadest form should be fostered, some of our organizations are breeding-places for snobs. Nor is the ruthlessness confined to inter-group competition and conflict. As a matter of fact, it is seen in its most sinister form in the struggle for economic, social and political positions by members of the same organization. "Brotherhood be damned" has come to be the philosophy instead of the benevolent spirit so gloriously dreamed of a few years ago when the organizations were yet in the process of becoming.

Beginning with this issue, the editorial staff of the "Oracle" will present a guest writer from one of the other national Greek-letter organizations. In this issue we present a contribution by Dr. Andrew P. Watson, a member of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity. A graduate of Fisk University, he formerly taught history and sociology at Virginia Union University in Richmond, Va., and at present is professor of history at Wiley College. In our next issue a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity will write for us.

True, many students still enter college with the idea of becoming a greek as their uppermost ambition. On the other hand many of the thinking students become disillusioned shortly after "hell week" and the initiation ceremonies are over. Such students may hang on perfunctorily during their college days, hoping for something worth while when they are eligible for graduate chapters; but here again, and in a more real way, is disappointment and disgust. For here the struggle and strife, competition and conflict, which the novice unwittingly engages in on a campus come to the front in their most vicious and ruthless forms. The ideal of brotherhood when and where self-interest is at stake has "gone with the pin." Honor, honesty, integrity—personal and group—and the very spirit out of which these organizations were born seem to have been forgotten even in this mildest implication.

But before we proceed further, it should be said in defense of Greek-letter societies that they still have promise, and that promise is that which is found in uncontaminated youth. To make this point clear: if the undergraduate chapters were permitted to organize and run their affairs unhampered by coercion, restraints and hypocrisy from graduate members, the ideals for which the organizations were founded might be realized.

Strange that men who have been to college and who are now trying to make their way in the world of reality should permit themselves to become so narrow and self-centered as to stoop to some of the bunk that is so often seen today. It is not difficult to see that these sinister influences of the sanhedrin operate Hitler-like to prevent initiative on the part of well-meaning students to effect organizations which can be operated on planes slightly above the law of the jungle. True

THE ORACLE



## GREEK LETTER ORGANIZATIONS

there is, and possibly ever shall be competition and rivalry for members, and this is as it should be. But where this friendly rivalry and competition is transformed and magnified into hatred and jealousy which carry over into after-campus life, something of the magnitude of the student's problem can be appreciated.

But the youth can do this if he can free himself from the dragnet of the elders. This may demand drastic action on the part of the initiate, but the prize should be worth the effort. Prejudice, as every student of sociology knows, is a social rather than a biological heritage, and one can dispossess himself of acquired traits. If the daring and enthusiastic spirit of youth will but assert itself to usher in a new order of things, then there is nothing to stop it. That there is need for such action, no one needs doubt, for inter- and intra-fraternal strife is becoming increasingly intensive as well as extensive. Cut-throat competition, rugged individualism, self-interest and personal glory have come to overshadow and deaden any sense of social justice and fair-play.

It is not to be inferred that the writer is against Greek-letter organizations on Negro college campuses. It is rather his aim to point out some of the shortcomings of societies which could but for certain fallacious and outmoded ideas and ideals mean so much for a people which is already vulnerable in a thousand ways because of endless division. Such division is dangerous today. We are living in a precarious age. An age when men must be broader and bigger than any petty fraternity. Yet much of our leadership has failed to see this in the past and as a result the masses of people, black and white, are, in their thinking, ahead of their leaders. Certainly white share croppers who are desperate enough to join hands with black men in the same plight as themselves have come to see the futility of division and conflict between people in identically the same social and economic predicaments.

Greek letter organizations have an opportunity to demonstrate the power of organization that few other groups have. For being sheltered on college campuses, with no justification for conflict save that growing out of friendly rivalry for members or a particular evening for a spring "prom," they could in a very real way set an

example for the masses by fostering and maintaining a spirit of cooperation where larger interests are at stake. Not only co-operation, but suppressing personal consideration in order to further the interest of the entire group, is what is meant here. This involves not only working with one's own group or other similar groups, but also working hand in hand with the masses of people. For example, giving direction for mass action in voting, demanding better schools, teachers, salaries, recreational facilities, houses, streets, and more adequate protection under the law and fairness in the courts.

These are but a few examples to point out the most glaring deficiencies in our political and civic life. Hardly can any organization among Negroes today claim any justification for being which fails to develop a consciousness of these needs and address itself to the task of remedying them. This care and concern for the masses is of vital importance, for they are looking to the college for leaders; and the college-bred men and women must look to them for a living as well as for protection in the hour of danger.

Apparently it has never occurred to many of us that the time and money spent for social blow-outs, and the talent wasted in petty strife and jealousies might be devoted to creative writing, scientific research, social services (as free medical and dental clinics, free legal defense for the exploited and oppressed) co-operation with various local and national organizations which are at least making a gesture at the bringing in of a new order of things.

To do this demands vision, intelligence and courage—intelligence and courage which make one defiant of any force that would stultify his mind and rob him of a cosmopolitan view. For such a one will know that after he leaves college his most intimate friends and those upon whom he is dependent for a living more often than not will be members of a different organization from himself or no organization at all.

It would seem that we should reasonably expect that Greek-letter organizations will soon pass out of the experimental stage and become hard-working cultural forces. If they fail to become such hard-working social forces, then their days of usefulness, in the opinion of the writer, will come to an end while they are yet aborning.



# MEET THE JUDGES OF THE ESSAY CONTEST

**A**S THIS issue of the ORACLE goes to press participation without precedent is forecast for the Annual Essay Contest, a feature of the Achievement Week Project. From the office of Brother Barrington D. Parker, director of the contest, comes notice that numerous inquiries from college and high school students concerning the details of the contest are indicative of this interest.

In an earlier release from the director it was stated that the judges would be announced in the Fall. From both the collegiate and the secondary academic levels, have been drawn a group of four judges, imposing not solely by virtue of their academic qualifications, but in addition to these are their keen appreciation and microscopic analysis of the problems of the Negro youth of America. The present article proposes to intro-

**Mr. Madison W. Tignor:** Educator and author; teacher of English at the Dunbar High School of Washington, D.C.; conferred with the A.B. degree (magna cum laude) from Howard University, A.M. degree from Columbia University; contributor to Opportunity, Southern Workman and other periodicals.

**Dr. Eva B. Dykes:** Educator, author and musician; Associate Professor of English at Howard University; attended Radcliffe College where she was conferred with the A.B. (magna cum laude), A.M., and Ph.D. degrees, majoring in English; contributor to educational, social, and religious publications.



**Miss Bertha C. McNeill:** Educator, author, and humanitarian; teacher of English and Journalism in the Dunbar High School of Washington, D.C.; co-editor of the Journal of the National Association of College Women; chairman of the National Minority Committee of the Women's Interracial League of Peace and Freedom.



**Dr. Benjamin Brawley:** Educator, humanitarian, and author; Professor of English at Howard University; formerly Professor of English and Dean at both Morehouse College and Shaw University; president for two terms of the Association of Colleges for Negro Youth; conducted a survey of the social and educational conditions in Africa in 1920.

duce to the Brothers of Omega, participants in the Essay Contest, and the patrons of our program, those judges upon whom will fall the responsibility of declaring the meritorious essays.

Last year more than 500 essays were submitted to the project director. According to the number of inquiries and requests for literature, a similar number will participate in this year's contest.

This means that the four persons pictured on this page will have a tremendous job judging the contest. None are members of the fraternity. All of them have other interests that tax their time to the limit; still they consented to aid us in this, our annual event. The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity is grateful to them for their interest in its contest, and takes this means of expressing its appreciation.





# FIGHTING THE SLUMS

• BY ROBERT C. WEAVER

**A**FTER NEARLY a century of surveys, investigations, reports, and endless palaver, a nation-wide campaign against the devastating blight of slums has been launched. Established by the United States Housing Act of 1937, the agency charged with the responsibility for conducting this war upon slums is the United States Housing Authority under the administration of Mr. Nathan Straus who for years has been an active advocate of public housing for low income groups.



WEAVER

The USHA was established, in the words of the Act, "to provide financial assistance to the States and political subdivisions thereof for the elimination of unsafe and insanitary housing conditions, for the eradication of slums, for the provision of decent, safe, and sanitary dwellings for families of low income, and for the reduction of unemployment and the stimulation of business activity . . ."

An \$800,000,000 war chest was authorized by Congress for the purpose of enabling the USHA to carry on an effective fight against the slums whose dark and sinister shadows have distorted life for millions of Americans. This sum made available to the USHA is to be loaned to local housing authorities for the purpose of clearing their slums and erecting new low-rent houses. The USHA may lend to the local authorities up to 90 per cent of the developing costs of projects which have been locally initiated and which will be constructed and managed by the local authorities. In addition, the USHA contracts to make annual contributions to the local housing projects at the present rate of 3.75 per cent of the total development costs. Thus the program is one carried on jointly by the Federal Government and the municipalities with the USHA acting chiefly as banker. It is a decentralized program in that the demand for slum clearance and low-

No one is better qualified to bring to "Oracle" readers the part being played by our Federal Government in "fighting the slums" than Brother Robert C. Weaver. For several years Brother Weaver was adviser on the economic status of the Negro to the Secretary of the Interior. Recently he advanced to the position of Special Assistant to the Administrator of the United States Housing Authority. The writer received both his undergraduate and doctorate degrees from Harvard University, and while an undergraduate at that institution was initiated into the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.

While his official duties are many, he has always found time to give service to Omega, and at present is serving us as a member of the Housing Committee of the Fraternity.

rent housing must originate in the local communities after certain legal requirements have been met. It is also a public program in that it provides for the development of projects only under the sponsorship of local housing authorities established in accordance with enabling acts passed by state legislation.

Although the United States Housing Authority is less than a year-old, loan contracts amounting to \$154,528,000 had been signed with 28 local authorities by August of 1938. These loan figures cover no more than 90 per cent of the development costs of 51 proposed projects in 16 states. A total of \$517,081,000 has been earmarked for the construction of projects in 129 cities.

What does this vast slum clearance program mean to the Negro American? It means that the door is being opened through which thousands of our people will for the first time be given an opportunity to live in decent, safe, and sanitary homes. It means that these families will no longer have to spend half of their income for rent in order to live in a decent home. It means that children who otherwise might be condemned to grow up in congested, dreary, and disease-ridden black ghettos will be given opportunity to develop in a wholesome environment. It means hope for a better day and brighter opportunities.

Of the total of 30,496 dwelling units to be provided in the USHA projects for which loan contracts have already been approved by President Roosevelt, approximately 8,450 or 27.7 per cent will be occupied by Negroes in 23 of the projects



## FIGHTING THE SLUMS

in 20 cities. These projects will be erected in the South and West as well as in the North and East. They will replace tenements and shacks in slums and blighted areas in which our people are now compelled to live. In the place of crowded, sunless firetraps, new houses will be erected. The conveniences of the modern home will be installed in these new fire resistant dwellings. Every room will have its outside windows. Every building will be constructed with a view to utility as well as beauty. Shelter rents will be kept at the lowest possible level, ranging from \$2.75 to \$4.25 per room per month, depending upon the cost of development. Children who now play in streets in the midst of traffic, will have access to recreational areas on the project sites.

While the law does not provide absolute maximum and minimum wages for prospective tenants, it does provide that no family whose income exceeds five times the rent shall be eligible, except in cases where there are three or more minor dependents. In such cases the income may amount to six times the rent.

One objective of the United States Housing Act of 1937 is the eradication of slums and the construction of new low-rent houses. However, another objective is the reduction of unemployment. This is an objective of the utmost importance to a people who have been as hard hit by unemployment as has the Negro. According to an estimate, more than \$250,000,000 will be paid in wages to building trades workers employed on projects under the USHA. This sum will provide a year's work for 300,000 men. One-and-a-half times this number in addition will be employed in the fabrication and transportation of building materials necessary for the program. Then there is the work of demolition—the tearing down of the old, the making way for the new.

In all these fields of labor there are Negro workers, some of whom will be directly employed in the work of demolition, construction, manufacture, and transportation. In order to insure the employment of Negro skilled and semi-skilled workers as well as the unskilled, non-discriminatory clauses, by terms of which certain percentages of the payroll will go to Negroes, are being proposed for contracts between local authorities and builders. A similar clause in-

cluded in contracts for the erection of Federal housing projects under the Public Works Administration resulted in a payroll of \$3,250,000 for Negro wage earners in building trades in 21 of the cities in which they were employed. Of this sum approximately \$810,000 went to skilled Negro workers.

More than this: public housing opens up a new field of employment to progressive and competent young Negroes. In addition to the work of construction, Negroes will in some instances be employed as architects and engineers, as managers, clerical workers, and social investigators, and in other technical and professional capacities. In all such positions Negroes have already been employed in large numbers in the public housing program.

Thus the Negro citizen, like others of low-income, is doubly benefited by the program of the United States Housing Authority. He will be given an opportunity to escape from the slums, to occupy decent new homes, to obtain employment in the building trades, and to make a place in the new field of public housing. Inasmuch as the housing program is a decentralized program, the degree of his participation will depend, in the long run, upon the extent to which he is recognized as a factor in his local community. In 14 cities, Negroes have been named to membership to the local housing authorities. Elsewhere he has articulated his needs through advisory committees, organizations, the press, and other agencies.

Surely the college-bred man should be in the forefront of the progressive movement which visualizes clearly the need for public housing as an important contribution to social reform. If our opportunities in this field are to be continued and expanded it will be necessary for our trained young men and women to associate themselves with that progressive movement and to articulate our needs through cooperation with local housing authorities. It is our obligation as college men to accept this challenge: to work for better living conditions for our people; to obtain our fair share of employment, manual, technical, and professional; to take leadership in working for the "more abundant life" for all our people. To do less is to confess that our university and college training has not fitted us for the responsibilities of the modern world.





Guest soloist was Miss Mattie Bell Hall, a graduate of Knoxville College, who received an encore when she completed a rendition of "Indian Love Call."



The popular ballad, "Water Boy," is being sung by Merritt A. Hedgeman, formerly with the Fisk Jubilee Singers. He is being directed by Co-director Edward G. Jackson.



Carl Bailey, well-known cartoonist, was on hand picking out such pretties as Miss Alice Lindsey, of Pittsburgh, as subjects.

## EPSILON SPONSORS ANOTHER SHOWBOAT

• BY DUDLEY A. CLARK



An unidentified couple caught by the Oracle photographer while in a pensive mood. The photographer ducked and disappeared.

Seated left to right are pictured Vice Grand Basileus Sterrett; Mrs. Mifflin T. Gibbs, wife of Epsilon's Basileus; Grand Basileus Dent; Oracle Editor Weaver and Mrs. Weaver. They all seem to be enjoying the act staged by end men James "Woof" Watson and J. Carl Canty.

**T**HE COLLEGE CHUM, the old home-towner and visitors from coast to coast delighted in the festivities of the Third Annual Show Boat on the Hudson, as the guests of Epsilon Chapter, the Show Boat sponsor.

More than three thousand friends and members of "The Mighty Epsilon" were on board when the big anchor was lifted and the steamer set sail. All reveled to the harmony and gay music of the Omega Glee Club, with its guest artists. Dancing, to the tune of Eddie Mallory and his orchestra, romancing and sipping at the bar, were the other highlights that went to make this year's Show Boat the biggest social event Harlem has ever seen.

On Board were such fraternity notables as Grand Basileus Albert W. Dent, of New Orleans; Paris V. Sterrett, Vice Grand Basileus, of Boston, Mass.; Editor-in-Chief of the ORACLE, Frederick S. Weaver, of Washington, D.C., and District Representative Roger M. Yancy, of Newark, N.J.

The committee in charge of this gala event was headed by Bertrand W. Green, who was assisted by Brothers Mifflin T. Gibbs, Homer Q. Smith, Claude McAdams, Connie Jenkins, Richard Berry, L. Chappelle Glenn, Richard R. Jefferson, Irving H. Selden, Dudley A. Clark, Roland K. Fortune and Ambrose R. Phillips. Irving H. Selden was editor of the Souvenir Program, and Homer Q. Smith, of the popular Southernaires, and Edward G. Jackson, of the famous Charioteers, were co-directors of the Omega Glee Club which is pictured on the opposite page.

Dr. Peter Marshall Murray, member of the Board of Medical Examiners of New York City and Trustee of Howard University, delivering a eulogy on the life of the late James Weldon Johnson, in a serious feature of the evening. The Glee Club is in the background.







JOHN L. BUTLER



SAMUEL F. WINFIELD



G. JOHNSON HUBERT, JR.  
PIANIST



RICHARD O. BERRY



DUDLEY A. CLARK



CHARLES M. HANSON



J. BURKE HORNE



JAMES A. WATSON



EDWARD G. JACKSON  
CO-DIRECTOR



HOMER Q. SMITH  
CO-DIRECTOR



J. CARL CANTY



GEORGE M. DANNELLY

## THE OMEGA GLEE CLUB



HERMAN L. JAMES



MERRITT A. HEDGEMAN  
SOLOIST



AMBROSE R. PHILLIPS  
SOLOIST



ROBERT A. MACON



THEODORE A. NEELY



ASHTON C. KITCHENS



L. CHAPPELLE GLENN



MIFFLIN T. GIBBS



ALFRED V. PETTIE



IRVING H. SELDEN



S. BRUCE BROWN



JAMES E. HUDSON



CYRIL K. MARKS



ROLAND K. FORTUNE



HAROLD O. BASDEN, JR.



FORREST L. BLOUNT

WOLFE Studio



# NEW FRONTIERS IN ANTHROPOLOGY .

• BY DR. W. MONTAGUE COBB

ALEXANDER MEIKLEJOHN in his presidential address at the Amherst Centennial said, "There are two ways of facing life, two kinds of wisdom for man-



DR. COBB

dread, the other the way of confidence. One rests on fear and cunning; the other on hope and faith. One is for man, the beast; the other for man, the spirit." In that spirit of confidence which must imbue efforts to make the world better for living without crushing the other fellow, brief note is made here of certain considerations pertaining to numbers and quality in human beings and of new approaches in science which, if properly attended by ourselves, may improve the lot of generations rising and unborn.

All living creatures tend to multiply without limit. It has been estimated that if all the progeny of a fertile female housefly in April continued normal reproduction without interference, they would cover the earth over forty feet deep by August. Fortunately, environmental resistance, which is the sum of the external factors which restrict the potential increase in numbers and the habitat of a given species, prevents such an insectean deluge.

Man has been more successful than any other animal in overcoming his environmental resistance. As a result he is the dominant and most widely distributed form of life on this planet, although his reproductive capacity is comparatively small. Today the earth is facing the problem of human overcrowding for the first time in its history. With tools now in hand it is likely that man will make even further progress in subduing his environment so that population pressure may in time become universally acute. Several investigators have concluded that in two or three hundred years all the usable lands of the world will be fully saturated. Such an eventuality would render the oppressive placebos with which certain crowded nations today seek to allay

Dr. W. Montague Cobb, an anatomist whose special interest is physical anthropology, writes for us on a subject that should be of interest to all of our readers. Holding both the M.D. and Ph.D. degrees, our writer is Associate Professor of Anatomy at Howard University, and a Fellow in Anatomy at Western Reserve University. He has served as Basileus of Alpha Psi Kappa Psi and Omega Chapters in Washington.

their ills more obviously futile than at present.

Logic would dictate that human effort should be directed to the end that all localities would be peopled with only as many individuals as could be comfortably supported and that, in the interest of peace and progress, these individuals would be of superior quality. Consequently, birth control in all its aspects, and the more difficult and complex problem of growing better human beings are receiving widespread and intensive study today, though the immediate stimuli to such study are generally less altruistic than the logical ideal.

Physical anthropology might properly be asked for valid specifications as to how the most superior types of human beings might be identified and how they should be bred and nurtured. This would seem an ambitious but not unreasonable demand of a science which concerns itself with the study of human constitution in all its variations, against the background of its developmental and comparative zoological history. Prescriptions for the attainment and maintenance of human superiority have not been wanting as the multiple racial ideologies of the past and present compellingly attest, but their bias diverts our interest from these.

If we should take the anthropometric data which more than a century of careful assemblage have given us, and attempt to set down builders' specifications for superior human beings we should end with products acceptable today in any quarter of the globe.

We should first require that our superior beings be born of long-lived ancestors because the best index of potential longevity now available is the longevity of one's forebears.

Our group could have a wide range of statures to suit all tastes, because in modern civilization stature has negligible survival value, although in primitive conditions it is of undoubted importance



in combat, labor and escape. Today desirable stature is essentially a matter of esthetic preference, the ladies generally favoring tallness. Our correlation tables would prescribe body weights suited to the respective statures.

Because differences in stature are due more to variations in leg length than in trunk length, our tables showing the relationship between stature and sitting-height would give us an appropriate trunk length for each stature.

We might then invest each torso with vital organs of adequate size. It would be difficult to err in this respect because of the tremendous reserve capacity which the vital viscera possess. It has been demonstrated that a man may live with only a third of one lung, or a third of one kidney, or with but a few feet of the approximately twenty-six feet of the gastrointestinal tract, and it has been estimated that most of us routinely use only about one-eighth of the gray matter of our brains. Nevertheless, we should endow our group with large brains because the brain weight of distinguished people tends to be above the population average, although some brilliant men, such as Anatole France, have had unusually small brains.

Ideal body proportions might be permitted to remain matters of local fashion as they are today. In the United States, for example, the typical Negroid physique with broad shoulders, narrow hips and long legs is generally regarded as a masculine ideal, while the feminine model is a white type of body build with moderate shoulders, full hips and well developed breasts.

It would not be necessary to give specifications for any of the traits by which race is determined because none of these traits have direct survival value in our civilization or bear a significant relationship to human caliber or fitness. We could thus let our superior subjects choose what head form, skin color, eye color, hair form, nose form, lip thickness, tooth arrangement, facial index and the like, they preferred, because in respect to human capacity these items are of no moment. Doubtless our superior group would engage in experimental breeding which would produce more interesting combinations of these traits than are at present known.

In short, our anthropological data have shown us that practically everywhere on the earth's surface human beings of superior potentialities may be found and that the mixture of blood of

such people is without demonstrable dysgenic effects. Consequently, the interest of the anthropologist may become concentrated on better breeding and better nurture. While the lack of knowledge and facilities prevents the practical establishment of eugenic practices free of non-biological influences today, opportunities for study of the growth and proper care of the young abound. It is here that we view new horizons.

The possibilities of a human being are greatest when he is a freshly fertilized egg, and man can do nothing to enhance the potentialities of the zygote. We direct our efforts to conserving as many of them as possible so that latent capacities may be developed into useful abilities.

This requires an exhaustive knowledge of every phase of the human life span from fertilization to senescence. In extending old, providing new and coordinating objective measures of developmental progress over the entire span, the physical anthropologist can and is performing a great service.

We have long had dimensional norms as checks for our growth in size. Height-weight charts are the most familiar of these. Gradually the anthropologist is giving us more valuable measures of maturity, as distinguished from increase in size, in standards of the age changes in our bones as shown by the X-ray. Not only does the skeleton show accurately the progress of maturity but it reveals interruptions of development produced by disease or nutritional disturbance. A severe illness will halt growth and the growing bone ends will become denser. After recovery when growth is resumed new bone will be added to the growing end but the dense area will remain and form even in adult life a telltale shadow on the roentgenogram, marking the time and approximate duration of the illness.

In addition the X-ray is being used to follow skeletal development before birth, and in adult life and age, after growth, but not developmental change, has been completed.

Along with this, the physical anthropologist, with the aid of the psychologist, is following the patterns of mental development of the growing child so that the well organized laboratory can furnish a composite picture of the physical growth, maturity, and the mental development of a given child in a very short time. Further, it is becoming possible through studying series of



the same children from before birth to adulthood to detect very small developmental aberrations and indicate their significance, probable causes and means of correction.

Anthropological studies of this type require the aid of experts in many interpenetrating fields of knowledge and so promote the essential unity of science. The human salvage value of such studies to parent, teacher, individual and

state is at once obvious and inestimable. In the sense of Edwin Markham's poem,

"He drew a circle to shut me out—

Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout.

But love and I had the wit to win:

We drew a circle that took him in,"

all who believe in the great circle will be deeply interested in the progress and applications of investigations of this kind.

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## THE BLACK RAPIST

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• BY MELVIN BEAUNORUS TOLSON

**M**AN HAS never been a moral animal except under compulsion. In the Old Testament, even the chosen people of God were always



TOLSON

lying, stealing, and fornicating. Moses had a devil of a time trying to keep the children of Israel in the straight and narrow path. Laws grow out of necessity. Troubled in mind, Moses went up into the mountains, talked things over with God, and came down with the Ten Commandments. Observe that God spoke out of fire and smoke, hoping to frighten men into doing the right thing.

Man has it all over the other animals in that he can talk and write. So he wrote that he was created in the image of God. With all of Man's abominations and adulteries and lying and killings, God must be ashamed of His image. I suppose that's the reason He destroyed the world with a flood in Noah's day.

Yes, Man has been everything but a moral animal. Even the best of men. There was old David putting Uriah in the front-line battle so that David could get the man's beautiful wife. Solomon, who certainly had his share of women, felt it to be his duty in Proverbs to warn the boys against picking up streetwalkers; also against sneaking in the back door when the hus-

You may not agree with the subject matter of this article, but you must admire the logic used and upon which the writer draws his conclusions. Brother Tolson, who is serving as our managing editor is a teacher of English and Argumentation at Wiley College, Marshall, Texas. He is also coach of the Wiley debating teams, known generally as the National Debating Champions; and is director of Dramatics at Wiley. He is a graduate of Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, and of Columbia University. Even though he speaks and writes frankly and daringly, he is frequently invited to address audiences at the large white universities of the South. His debating team was the first to clash with the team of a Southern white university. Southern Methodist University, The University of Kansas, Texas A. & M., University of Southern California, and the City College of Oklahoma City, as well as practically all of the leading colored schools, have been defeated by these exceptional forensic masters.

band was away on a long journey. Solomon certainly had the low-down on the dirty tricks of the good-timing Jews! I sometimes wonder WHERE and HOW he got his first-hand information.

Of course you know that Sodom and Gomorrah became so rotten that God had to destroy those breeding-places of the seven deadly sins. Old Jeremiah saw so much dirt in Jerusalem that he went about weeping in despair and uttering fiery prophecies of destruction. In short, the Bible is one long denunciation of the wickedness of Man, who boasts that he was created in God's image.

History is also a record of Man's iniquities. Kings have always had their concubines; their palaces have been erected on the bones of the poor and helpless. You've read about the scandals of



## THE BLACK RAPIST

the rich at Saratoga and Atlantic City, in Paris and in Tokyo. You've read about the exploitation of factory workers and miners in "Robber Barons." Even the popes have succumbed to rascalities that have been pictured by truthful writers. In all countries and among all races, the sins of Man have been the same. Skeletons rattle in a million closets. Senators carry on their dirty tricks behind closed doors as revealed in that remarkable book, "The Treason of the Senate." In ancient Egypt the priests told the People that the gods demanded every year the sacrifice of the most beautiful maidens. The girls were placed in the mouth of a great god from whose jaws came fire and smoke. Recently, archaeologists making excavations discovered that below the god, in vast chambers, the priests had their revels. They had killed the maidens *after* they got through with them. In the same country the priests told the people that if they wanted to go to paradise they had to have their bodies embalmed. The priests collected the money for this little service. For they were also the undertakers! No, we can't say that Man has been a moral animal! That's the reason for thousands of laws.

With these facts in mind, let us look at Man the rapist. In ancient times, rape was taken for granted. A man's wife or daughter or mother was always in danger if she went too far from the hut. That's the reason, in all lands, men come hard on the rapist.

However, even today, in wartimes, rape is a common thing. To the victor belongs the spoils. And the spoils have always been the possessions and women of the conquered. The Chinese cry that the invading Japanese are raping their women.

Observe that it is the victor, not the vanquished, who rapes women. It is the women of the defeated that are ravaged. George Schuyler points that out in his book, "Slaves Today." Race doesn't count. Black Liberian officials rape the black native women.

Now, we come to the Negro in the South. It was quite natural and historical that white masters should possess colored women. Dr. Carter G. Woodson in his history tells of a white master in Virginia who had his big strapping sons breed Negro women for the slave market. There was a huge demand for female mulatto slaves. They were often used by young white men so that their

own women could remain virtuous. For centuries women have been pieces of property. Negroes were not the first slaves auctioned off at Jamestown. No. Before the Africans landed, white women were sold to the highest bidders for tobacco.

Virtuous women brought a higher price in the market. Every man wanted a virgin. And for the same reason that a new car is more desirable than an old car.

Many masters, as you know, had two families: a white one and a colored one. Thus the white man, as the conqueror, had the choice of both white women and colored women. That to him was something like the divine right of kings to Louis XIV.

Observe this—I don't know that any historian has pointed it out previously, but you can easily see the truth of it. The white man did not make a wholesale accusation of the Negro as a rapist until *after* the Emancipation Proclamation; in other words, as long as the Negro remained a piece of property he was a "good n. . . . ."

You will remember that Booker T. Washington, in his famous Atlanta address, declared that the Negro had protected the white man's fireside while he was away on the battlefield. At that time, the Negro had the chance to rape white women, but he didn't. This speech was sanctioned by the South and made Booker T. Washington famous.

Since that time the Southern white man has attempted to justify lynching on the ground that the Negro is a rapist. Why did that happen? Well, there are two good reasons.

First, a thief always suspects another man of being a thief; and for two hundred years the white man had been stealing the virtue of Negro women. A person judges other persons out of his own personal experiences. An accusation may be an indictment of the accuser as well as the accused. The wicked flee when no man pursues, and a historical study of the white man's rapes of Negro woman is proof of his sexual rapacity. He was the conqueror, and to the victor belongs the spoils, whether he is black or white, yellow or brown.

Second, the hundreds of thousands of mulattoes and quadroons and octoroons in the United States are incontestable evidence that the so-called theory of racial antipathy is a lie; and that the Southern white man's lust for Negro women





**T**HE CLEVELAND CONCLAVE appropriated money for the cost of publishing the "History of Omega," Brother S. Herman Dreer, former Oracle editor and assistant principal of Sumner High School in St. Louis, was elected historian.

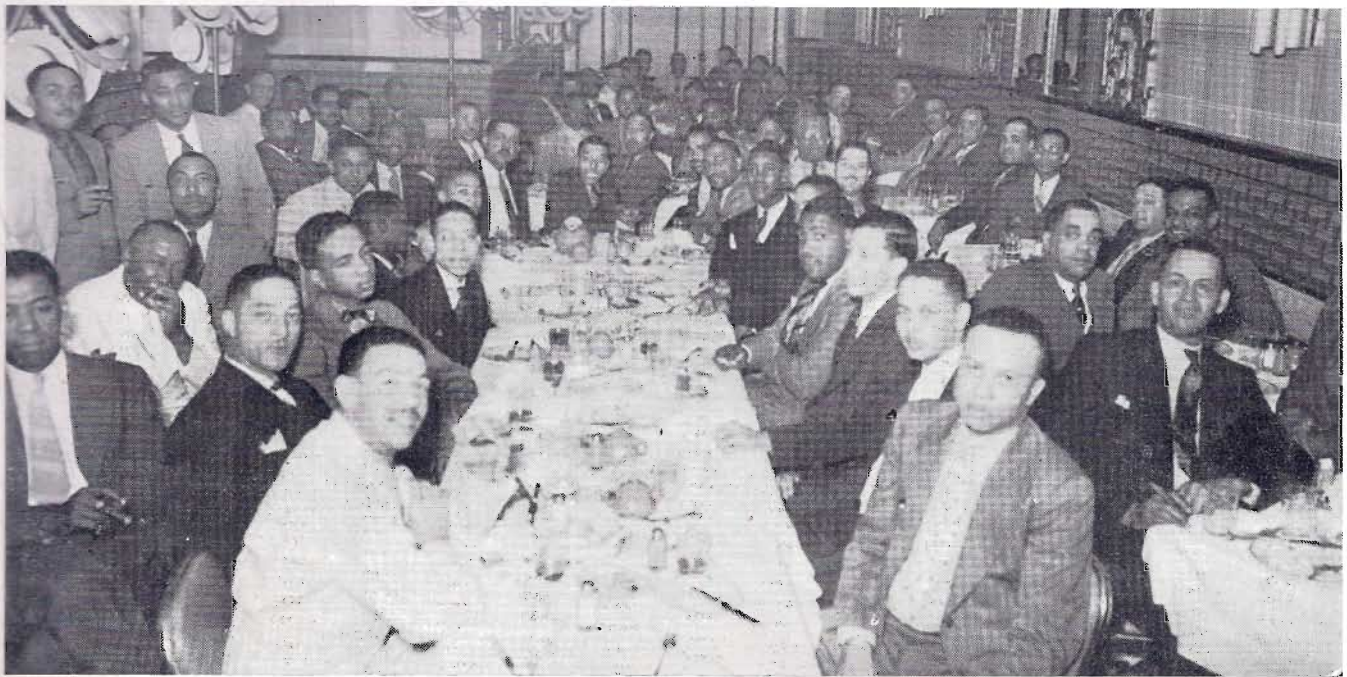
The Supreme Council was instructed to authorize its publication as soon as it had gone over and approved the manuscript. Above, they are seen carrying out this function at its Summer meeting.

From left to right are J. B. Blayton, Grand Keeper of Finance; George A. Isabell, Grand Keeper of Records and Seal; Albert W. Dent, Grand Basileus; Paris V. Sterrett, Vice Grand Basileus; Frederick S. Weaver, Editor of the "Oracle."

The coming Conclave will be something of a Constitution Convention. A committee appointed by the Grand Basileus to make a study of the Constitution and make recommendations to the conclave, met simultaneously with the Supreme Council in Chicago. During a recess they posed for a picture as shown below. Standing, left to right, Attorney Benjamin Clayton, James Kemp, Chicago; the Rev. D. V. Kyle, York, Pa.; Attorney Z. Alexander Looby, chairman, Nashville, Tenn.; Mifflin T. Gibbs, New York; Attorney Graham T. Perry, Chicago; W. J. Faulkner, Jr., Nashville, Tenn., and S. Herman Dreer, fraternity historian, who likewise met with the Supreme Council.







When the Supreme Council held its Summer Meeting in Chicago, Ill., last July, the Brotherhood of that City held a banquet in their honor at Morris' Perfect Eat Shop. We get a bird's-eye view of the large turn-out to this affair, which is a forecast that the Brothers in Chicago will be together when the Conclave is entertained there in December.

There are approximately 400 members of the two chapters in Chicago, and approximately the full membership was present to feast and hear the message of the national officers. All interest was centered around plans for the "Big Conclave" in December.

So anxiously are they that the delegates will have time for typical Omega diversion from our business sessions, that they asked for and obtained an additional day to entertain the Conclave. The dates now are officially, December 27-30, both inclusive.

Above is a cross-section of the turn-out to the banquet, while below we get a close-up of the speakers' table. The program for the Conclave has been tentatively approved and will be completed in time for the next issue of the "Oracle." Brother Benjamin Wilson, a member of the Illinois and Indiana Bars, is the Grand Marshal and in charge of all arrangements.





did not stop suddenly, like a car with air-tight brakes, when the Emancipation Proclamation was issued. White men still lust for desirable Negro women. They still ask Negro bellhops and "sweet men" to get them Negro women. They still take advantage of Negro working-girls.

Since they still wanted Negro women—to keep from reaping what they sowed; to protect their own women—they raised the cry of BLACK RAPIST!

Thus, they thought by fooling the public, by intimidating black men, by terrorizing white women, and by indicting the whole manhood of a race, they could carry on just as they did before the Emancipation; that is, they could possess both white and black women. They could still traffic, with impunity, in the flesh of American womanhood. White men have frothed at the mouth over social equality, while they practiced interracial sexuality!

But scientific investigation has proved that the black rapist was created by the lying imagination of these Southern gentlemen. Walter White, in "Rope and Faggot," studied 4,000 cases of lynchings. He found that few of the Negroes lynched had ever been accused of rape, but that economic competition, religious fanaticism, and the sexual jealousy of the lower ele-

ments of the white population had actuated most of the mobs.

Then leading white women in the South rose up against this lie of the black rapist and said they didn't need Southern chivalry to protect them; they were fully able to take care of themselves.

The spectre of the black rapist has haunted the Southland and created a world of trouble and covered up a multitude of evil. Undoubtedly it has caused many a sensitive white woman to cry rape at the innocent approach of some black man when she was alone in a house or on a deserted road. But with the anti-lynching bills scattering propaganda abroad, we may look for the blotting out of this injustice that has condemned the manhood of the race before the bar of public opinion.

Negro men are no better or no worse than the men of other races. And men, generally speaking, on account of mores and laws and religion, do not resort to rape save when there are not enough women to go around or when a conqueror nation occupies the territory of the enemy. Since the white man is economically superior in America, Negro women are infinitely in greater danger than white women. To the victor belongs the spoils. So white men take the Negro's property and the Negro's women.

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## BODY VERSUS SOUL

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• BY BENJAMIN BRAWLEY

AMONG the poems that have come down to us from the Middle Ages is a famous one entitled *Debate of the Body and the Soul*. It is amazing in how many ways—in how many very practical ways—the debate is with us still.

It is involved in almost every important decision we have to make. On one hand is the plea of opportunism or expediency; on the other is that of truth eternal. Here is the human appeal, there the divine. Yet Jesus Christ gave us the warning: "Fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."

The only one who has absolute power over

Dr. Benjamin Brawley needs no introduction to our readers. He is well known as an educator, lecturer and author. We realize that all of the talent does not rest in the possession of Greek-letter men; hence we went outside of that realm to invite this gifted writer to make a contribution to our magazine. Dr. Brawley is also serving as one of the judges of our Annual Essay Contest.

both the body and the soul is God. The text means that we are not to fear man, who has power over the body but not the soul, and that we are to be mindful of God and God alone.

This means that in all our dealings in this world each will have prime respect for that in him which is eternal. It is Pater's "white bird," to be borne spotless through the marketplace.



## BODY VERSUS SOUL

The injunction cuts directly across everything that is ordinarily deemed politic, and yet nothing is more needed in a great political capital—in Washington, for instance.

Hardly any honest effort for freedom can be put forth in any place but that there will immediately rise those who say that it is not wise, that it is foolish in fact, and that—worst of all—we may lose some jobs.

They say that they know that things are not quite right, that in fact they are unjust, but that we must not be impatient, that all will be better after a while, and that meanwhile it is not well to make any noise.

To me it seems of the utmost importance that our young men shall not be passive in the face of wrong.

For too many years, in the capital of the greatest nation in the world, and in other great cities in this country, we have not been permitted to sit at a counter on a leading street and get a meal. Others may sit there, but we must go a mile away to be served. It is this situation that I say our souls must never be willing to accept.

As long as we are willing to accept half a loaf, there will be those who might be disposed to give it to us. If we make any noise, they might be disposed to take away even the half a loaf. That is the appeal to the body. The time has now come for us to tell all such people that we are sorry if that is their attitude, but that we can not be satisfied with anything less than a whole loaf.

For the moment of course we shall sometimes lose, but in the long run we shall gain.

The Jews in Germany are unjustly taxed, some of their stores are closed, and they are placed in concentration camps. Every effort is made to harass or degrade the body. If ever now the Jew accepts this situation and decides that it can not be improved, he is lost. If, however, his soul rises in rebellion, there is hope.

In 1835 the printing-office of Elijah P. Love-

joy was destroyed because he denounced a lynching that had taken place. He went from St. Louis to Alton, Ill., and there his press was three times destroyed, and he himself at length met death in his effort to defend his property. He lost his life, but in his death he was far more eloquent than he had ever been in life.

John Brown gave his life in one great exploit. His body might lie a-mouldering, but his soul goes marching on.

A little more than four years ago thirty young college men in Washington made a demonstration at one of the public buildings in the capital that practiced proscription. "Fools!" said some, "what did they expect to gain by that?"

To me it seems that they had everything to gain—the preservation of their immortal souls.

At the time I wrote a letter to the *Journal and Guide*. Let me be pardoned if I quote a part of it in the present connection.

"Because the question of earning a living is immediate and vital for the Negro in the United States, many persons are disposed to regard it as more important than any other. Such is not the case.

"The prime need of the Negro as of anybody else is character. . . The young men who made the demonstration were like John Brown. They were trying to make some impression on a stone wall. Technically they were out of order. In the last analysis, however, they were right.

"It might not be advisable to repeat this particular act. I certainly hope, however, that there will be other demonstrations. It is preposterous that in the capital of the greatest republic in the world, any group of citizens should be barred from government restaurants and the best theatre; and I rejoice to see that our young men are not disposed to accept this situation lying down."

"And what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"

### THE DECEMBER ORACLE

The December Oracle will go to press on December 1, and will be mailed in time to reach the members by December 15. Deadline for material, including changes in directory listings and addresses, is November 25th.

THE ORACLE



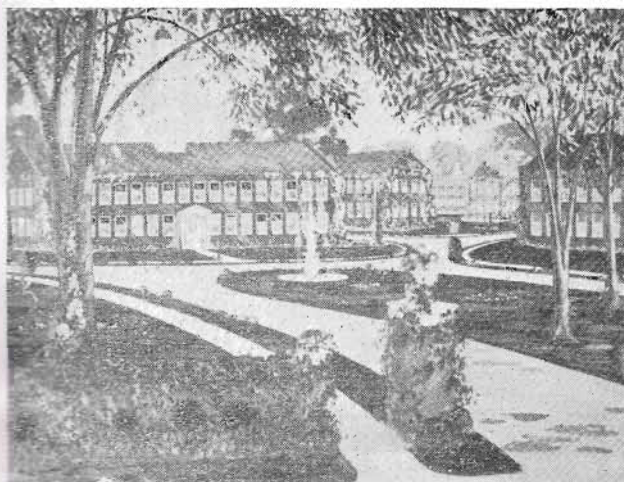
# A PROJECT TO IMMORTALIZE THE NEGRO GETS UNDER WAY . . . . .

• BY LIGHTFOOT SOLOMAN MICHAUX

**A**FTER LONG YEARS of waiting the Negro Race in America is to occupy a distinctive place in the historic setting of our Republic.

Along by the side of the banks of the old James River, hard by the sacred spot of Jamestown, soon will be dedicated a memorial of national and international importance to a people who landed by force and in servitude on these shores but whose adversities have rewarded them with a freedom made secure under constitutional guarantee. From 1619 the beginning of slavery in Virginia until the Great Proclamation of 1863, the Negro made little if any progress except to imbibe freely and generously of the spirit that animated our fathers in throwing off the yoke of their own oppression. There has not yet been built a monument in stone or marble that would in any way adequately commemorate the heroism and sacrifice of the Negro in the liberation of this country from the tyranny of British rule. Certainly there is no memorial that can even remotely suggest the progress and advancement of the race in the last three-quarters of a century when its stride forward in the arts and sciences, morals and religion, commerce and industry have reached a point that is the marvel of the whole world, and the swelling force of its energy and restless ambitions now betoken an even greater advance in the years before us.

There are six cogent, pressing reasons why a



The Proposed Administration Building

Several months ago, Elder Lightfoot Solomon Michaux initiated a project to erect a National Memorial to the Progress of the Negro Race in America. That title to more than 500 acres of land on the James River is already in possession of the advisory board, indicates that the project will be brought to fruition before many years. The founder and president of the memorial, in this issue has contributed an article designed to acquaint our readers with the facts concerning this vast undertaking. Two members of this fraternity—Dr. John R. Hawkins, of the A.M.E. Church, and the editor of the "Oracle"—are members of the National Advisory Board.

great Jamestown Memorial should be erected to the Negro race in America.

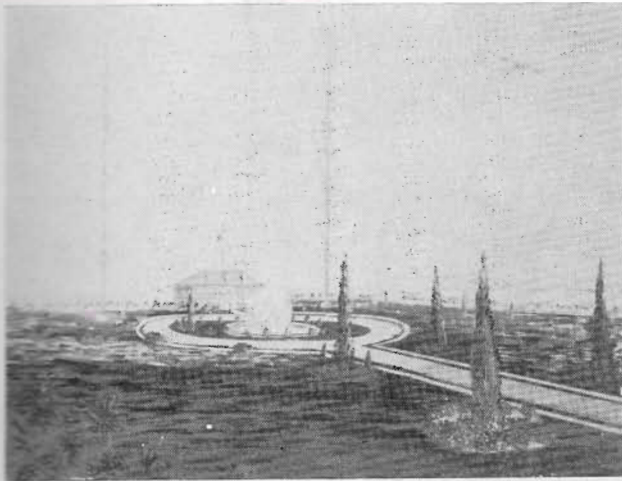
1. It is to the credit of the colored man that he should have desired to remain in the country that had made of him a slave. If he did not have equal opportunity he was willing to bide his time for what might be his; if he could not till his own soil he willingly tilled it for his master; if he did not possess a freedom that was his own he only asked that he might breathe its spirit and live in its atmosphere. The chains that others made bound him but his own spirit set him free. The intangible thing of an unconquerable spirit should be commemorated in the art that it has created. There is nothing finer in our civilization than the docile obedience, the servile loyalty and beautiful humility of our race which was landed on these shores in chains but remained to enrich the hearts and homes of their captors with legends of countless tales of devotion and heroism not equalled in history and which are forever enshrined in song and story, beginning in the cradle and ending at the grave.

This unconquerable spirit of an unconquerable race should be forever preserved as one of the finest things in our civilization.

2. The soil of old Jamestown is sacred to our race. It was here that our fathers landed. On the very spot where the MEMORIAL is to be built is the first farm to be owned by a former slave. Around and in the neighborhood of the building of the National Memorial are being spent, by individuals such as John D. Rockefeller at Williamsburg and the government of the United States, tens of millions of dollars for the restoration and nationalization of this basin, the cradle



## PROJECT TO IMMORTALIZE THE NEGRO



Where Programs Will Be Broadcast

of American liberty, and for the Negro race to lose its opportunity to display its own pride and ambition in its own destiny as well as patriotism in the preservation to all generations of the deeds and achievements of record in its history would be nothing less than tragic and unforgivable, and the loss would be immeasurable both to the race and the world.

3. The schools and colleges and universities that are in every state in the union, the social, political and economic organizations that flourish everywhere, the notable achievements of preachers, lawyers, doctors, artists, scientists, bankers, merchants and industrialists, literally by the tens of thousands, along with property owners, capitalists, land owners, farmers, engineers, builders and thousands of other trades and professions give constant and convincing testimony to the triumph and glory of a race that has taken a place in the front rank of achievement in the greatest country on earth—surely in a country like this and with a race that is so strident and majestic in its march upward it should tell of its

deeds and its heroism that succeeding generations may know of its place in history, and to this aim and end the National Memorial dedicates itself.

4. The National Memorial is creating an exhibit ground of national achievement. An administration building will be put on the ground of an imposing character and such as will meet the needs of an organization serving our race. It is here where the vital things of our race will concentrate and become dynamic. The Hall of Fame will house the great men and women of our race in statue,—stone and marble. A great Convention Hall will be the means of attracting great conventions, concerts, lectures, music festivals and every helpful and educational undertaking. The College will educate, train, discipline and create. The Church will receive emphasis as God's way of bringing his people into union and service. A great Library will be part of the whole and a pivotal point around which will revolve the learning and idealism of the race. The James River Pier, the Pavilion, the Yacht Basin, the Recreational Beach and Picnic Grounds and other vital, useful and necessary features in the scheme of the whole will take their places as a part of a national enterprise looking to the betterment, the happiness and the advancement of the colored man in America.

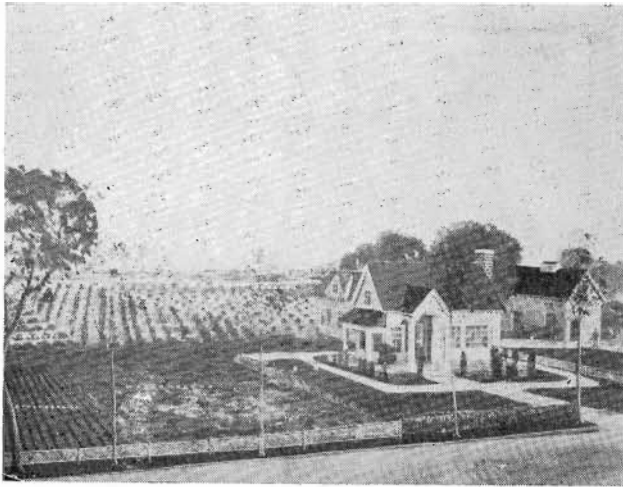
5. Of prime importance in the conception of the builders of this great enterprise is that of emphasizing the necessity of the movement, "back-to-the-soil," if we are ever to solve the greatest problem that now faces the American people. The colored man loves the soil. He is not a stranger to it. Here is his opportunity. The big industrial centers are breeding grounds of discontent and disease and poverty. While others may spend their lives chasing an impossible Utopia in the squalor of congested areas

The Artist's conception of what project will look like when completed.





## PROJECT TO IMMORTALIZE THE NEGRO



Typical 5-Acre Lot and Home

the wisdom of the ages calls the colored man back to the soil where independence, liberty, freedom of action, social and moral advancement are surest and where patriotism and loyalty to home and church and country are unchecked and untrammelled. The small five acre farms embraced in the National Memorial scheme will be typical and representative of the best and highest in the development of farm life and success. The problem of America is the problem of the farm: the problem of the farm is the problem of America. Back to the farm! These farms are not to be sold, but families selected from members of the National Memorial will be assigned to them to operate them on a co-operative basis.

6. Innumerable institutions of learning, museums, halls of fame, and national shrines have been built by the white race in America and it thereby perpetuates the glory of its achievements. May the colored people not ask themselves this disquieting question: Wherefore should we not do likewise and thus bring to light the glory of our race?

It is not a vain hope that many of the white people of this country will gladly help us.

The President of the National Memorial wishes to leave this suggestion to all its readers, and that is that National Memorial Clubs be organized everywhere by the election of officers and that correspondence be set up with headquarters in Washington. A form of by-laws and rules governing the body with a statement of its aims and objectives will be forwarded to any newly organized club. A card of National Membership will be issued to every one who is a mem-

ber of a local club and these cards carry with them certain privileges and honors.

The work of the memorial is going forward under the supervision of a Board of Advisors, headed by Major R. R. Wright, of Philadelphia. Other members of the National Advisory Board are Dr. John R. Hawkins, financial secretary of the A.M.E. Church; Dr. Emmett J. Scott, retired secretary of Howard University; Miss Nannie H. Burroughs, president, National Training School for Girls; Judge James A. Cobb; A. S. Pinkett, secretary, Washington Branch, N.A.A.-C.P.; Elder Michaux, president of the Memorial Association; Rev. W. H. Jernagin, president, National Baptist Sunday School Convention; W. H. C. Brown, banker; H. R. Robinson, architect;

Dr. William J. Thompkins, Recorder of Deeds for the District of Columbia; J. Finley Wilson, grand exalted ruler, I.B.P.O.E. of W.; Mrs. Mary E. Michaux, president, Y.W.P.C. of America; Jesse H. Mitchell, president, Industrial Bank of Washington; Judge William C. Hueston, Commissioner of Education, I.B.P.O.E. of W.; John C. Bruce, supervising principal, District of Columbia schools; Frederick S. Weaver, editor.

### The Worker to His Boss

IF LIFE you offer me a sip  
While you take a quaff.  
You feed on yellow wheat;  
I feed on chaff.  
You live in mansions;  
I live in huts.  
You are over-fed;  
I feel hunger in my guts.  
I made this world  
Which you enjoy  
Breaking it recklessly  
As a child a toy.  
I am tired of hunger  
I am tired of strife  
I am tired of always thirsting  
For a bit of life.  
I am tired of asking  
What you refuse to give  
I intend to take it;  
I intend to live!

—THOMAS FORTUNE FLETCHER.



# CHAPTER CARAVAN

• BY WILLIAM FORSYTHE, JR.

**T**HE SUMMER DAYS meant no let up for Omega men, especially on social activities. As your Caravan writer moved about from stem to stern, he found the good ole Q's cavorting and galavanting everywhere he went—a dance here, a boat ride there, with banquets, smokers and the like sandwiched in between.

It was a gay affair, that Omega Show Boat, sponsored by the "*Mighty Epsilon*" Chapter in New York City. From far and near, the Brothers and their friends wended their way to the banks of the Hudson for a 75-mile cruise. On board when the ship pulled anchor was Eddie Mallory and his Orchestra, who furnished the dance lyrics. And he did play. The Omega Glee Club, directed by Homer (Southernaires) Smith, and Edward (Charioteers) Jackson, let their voices blend to such tunes as "Loch Lomand," "Water Boy," "Flat Foot Floogee," "The Rosary," etc.

Among the frat notables sailing were Grand Basileus Dent, Vice Grand Basileus Sterrett, Editor Weaver, and District Representative Yancy. New York swears the Conclave will be their guests in '39. We hope so anyway.

Brother Welford Wilson, who did "The National Labor Relations Act and Negro Labor" for the ORACLE, has been assigned to the San Francisco, Calif. branch of the NLRB. He writes of the fine ladies in that locale, whom he says blend well with the California wines and liquors.

*Gamma Sigma*, the undergraduate chapter at Alabama State Teachers' College, write that they had a successful school year; rated first among the campus fraternities in scholastic achievement. They also are boasting of Charles Wright, newly elected Basileus, who was awarded a prize for attaining the highest scholastic record for his class during the term 1937-38. Brother Fred Fant, last year's Basileus, graduated Magna Cum Laude. The summer class saw the following brothers graduate: Clarence Edmonson, Emory Leverette and Winston Jones.

We hear from *Theta Chapter*, at Wiley College, concerning several former members of her chapter who are out in the world making good. "Top" O'dell, Wiley All-American football player, is a Gary, Indiana detective, "Chris" Hibler,

Again we present "Jolly" Forsythe with his interesting style of presenting the happenings of the members in the various Chapters. We appreciate the many kind comments that came following our first presentation of this feature. We shall continue to bring to you news from the Chapters through your "Chapter Caravan."

1935 Wildcat Captain, is engaged in social service work in Gary; "Cleve" Gay, Wiley's forensic star, is principal of a high school in Paris, Texas. Jake Douglass is studying medicine at Meharry. Rufus Anderson is dean of men at Wiley College.

Dr. Charles Drew, of *Alpha Omega*, Amherst, *Phi Beta Kappa*, noted athlete, is in New York on a fellowship at the Presbyterian Hospital. He is the first Negro ever allowed to enter there on any type of scholarship.

Several prominent appointments of Omega men have come to the attention of this column. Brother Isabell, our G. K. of R. & S., has been appointed manager of the Federal Housing Project in Detroit; Brother James Yergen, *Epsilon Chapter*, New York, was appointed an Assistant District Attorney of New York City by the "racket busting" Thomas Dewey; Attorney General Bennett, of the State of New York, appointed Brother Phillip Jones, of Brooklyn, one of his first assistants at a salary of five grand; Brother Bill Trent, of North Carolina, has been appointed an assistant to the U. S. Housing Authority administrator. He is working with Brother Bob Weaver.

*Alpha Omega Chapter*, the graduate chapter of the Nation's Capital, was revived a few weeks ago, in the presence of the Grand Basileus, Al Dent. Fred Weaver presided, and the ever-popular "Little Al" Scott was elected Basileus. The meeting and feast was held at the home of the ORACLE Circulation Manager, Alphonzo Lyons.

Several of the Brothers made marital vows during the summer's heat. Those whose names have been reported to this column are the marriages of Granville Woodson, Dr. James E. Walker, Howard Fitzhugh, Dwight Vincent Kyle, John P. Murchison, former ORACLE editor,

THE ORACLE



## CHAPTER CARAVAN

and Al Scott. We cannot overlook the announcement, however, of the pending marriage of Art Weiseger, former G.K. of R. & S.

Brother Kyle, that dynamic champion of undergraduate rights and a prominent figure at the Conclaves, took to his side the daughter of Bishop R. R. Wright, Jr. Brother Kyle received his doctor's degree from Boston University last June, and is now pastoring a church in York, Pa.

*Zeta Omega Chapter*, Cleveland, Ohio, through its Basileus, N. B. Bowen, writes that they're fighting for recognition at Western Reserve University, John Carroll University and Case School of Applied Science. Good work and good luck, N. B.

The Grand Basileus, A. W. Dent, has been a very busy man during the summer. After attending the Supreme Council meeting in Chicago, he visited in Tuskegee, Ala., Houston, Tex., attended the National Medical Association at Hampton, Va., stopped in Washington long enough to assist in getting *Alpha Omega*, the graduate chapter, reorganized, and then left for New York City to take in the Omega Show Boat, sponsored by *Epsilon Chapter*.

The summer session of the post-graduate course in venereal disease control given by Howard University in co-operation with the U.S. Public Health Service ended August 31, after three months of intensive work. Incidentally, this session of the course appeared as a get together of Omega men in as much as all the four members of the class were Omega men and that one of the instructors is also a brother. The camaraderie which prevailed among the members of the class before their fraternal affiliation was known bespeaks well for the Omega spirit.

The members of the class consisted of Dr. R. S. Smith, *Omega Phi Psi*, of Macon, Georgia; Dr. G. Frazier Miller, *Alpha Chapter*, of Washington, D.C.; Dr. James E. Walker, *Alpha Omega*, of Washington, D.C., and Dr. Edward S. Jones, *Alpha Omega*, Washington, D.C. Brother Walker served as Basileus of *Alpha Chapter* 1926-27.

Brother Smith was recently elected vice speaker of the House of Delegates of the National Medical Association at its convention at Hampton last August. He is also president of the Georgia State Medical Association. Among the interesting features of the course were visits to

the clinic at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, and the Stokes clinic at the University of Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia. Both these visits were made under the personal direction of Dr. C. Wendell Freeman, of *Alpha Omega*, instructor in dermatology, Howard University, Washington, D.C. All these Washington brothers are members of the *Kappa Pi* Honorary Medical Society of the Howard University School of Medicine.



Shown in the picture above, they are left to right, standing: Dr. R. S. Smith, Dr. Edward S. Jones; sitting: Dr. James E. Walker, Dr. C. Wendell Freeman and Dr. G. Frazier Miller.

Brother Barrington Parker, director of the Essay Contest, has been appointed to the faculty of Dillard University, whose president is Brother William Stuart Nelson. Brother Parker did his undergraduate work at Lincoln and his graduate work at the University of Pennsylvania.

Brother Herman Dreer, former editor of the ORACLE, and historian of the fraternity, met in Chicago with the Council and reported that the history of Omega would be ready for sale at the Conclave in December. The price will be \$2.50 per.

Brother "Blondie" Newman, of Washington, was in Chicago and took in the Supreme Council Banquet, as did Brother U. S. Donaldson, of St. Louis, Mo.

Meeting in Chicago, simultaneously with the Supreme Council was the committee on revision of Constitution and By-laws, headed by Z. Alexander Looby, astute attorney of Nashville. Credit



## CHAPTER CARAVAN

is due him for being able to assemble his entire committee in Chicago, though the majority of them lived hundreds of miles away. They were Ben Clayton and G. T. Perry, of Chicago; D. V. Kyles, York, Pa.; Mifflin T. Gibbs, New York City; W. J. Faulkner, Jr., Nashville, Tenn; George A. Isabell, Detroit, Mich.; J. H. Purnell, St. Louis, Mo.

Our young Vice Grand Basileus, Paris V. Sterrett, received his Master's Degree from Boston last June and was immediately appointed pastor of a church in Westerly, R. I.

Coming events cast their shadows before. If the smoker given in honor of the Grand Council by the *Sigma Omega* and *Iota* chapters is any indication of the success of the coming Conclave, then Omega men everywhere can be assured of one of the best Conclaves in the history of the fraternity. One hundred and twenty-five brothers of Omega attended this smoker which was held in Morris's Perfect Eat Shop and were inspired by the remarks of our grand officers and visiting brothers. (See picture page 17.)

The highlight of the occasion was a sincere, straight-forward address by our Grand Basileus, A. W. Dent, in which he emphasized the need of more cultural activities in the fraternity's program.

On August 10, *Sigma Omega* entertained the visiting men who were delegates to the National Dental Association with a smoker at the Palais Des Gardes. Among those present was Brother Vernon A. Powell, of Shreveport, La., who was graduated from Meharry Dental College, May, 1938, with the highest general average in all de-

partments. He has been awarded the general "proficiency gold medal" and granted a scholarship to do graduate work in Boston for one year with pay.

Two new members were brought across the burning sands into the fold of Omega recently. They are Brother Joseph J. H. Ford, secretary of boys' work at the Wabash Avenue Y.M.C.A. and a graduate of George Williams College, Chicago, and Brother Andrew W. Stith, a dentist of Chicago and a Meharry graduate. Both newly made brothers have caught the spirit of Omega and are co-operating with the chapter in its various activities.

The annual benefit dance for the South Side Boys' Club was held on September 23, with the services of Rudy Vallee and his Connecticut Yankees.

Our Grand Marshal, B. F. Wilson, is sparing no pains in his preparation for the Chicago Conclave. The Supreme Council has placed its stamp of approval on the program he outlined to them and even granted an additional day so that more time may be given to those progressive activities for which the fraternity should stand. The members of the conclave committee from *Sigma Omega* are Brothers F. C. Cade, L. W. Bingham, M. C. Murray, Louis Redman, E. A. Rouett and Walker. These brothers will be assisted by a similar number from *Iota Chapter* and sub-committees which will include all the active members of the two chapters. Don't forget that all roads will lead to Chicago beginning December 27, 1938.



Epsilon's No. 1 man is Mifflin T. Gibbs; not because he is Basileus of the Chapter, but because the value of his leadership has gained the recognition and praise of Omega men everywhere. He will be seen and heard at the Chicago Conclave. You can't miss him.

Founder of the Show Boat institution was Homer Q. Smith, tenor singer with the Southernaires. He organized the Omega Glee Club—the meat of the Show Boat—and can always be counted in on anything in which Omega is involved. Epsilon calls him a "champion of goodwill."





• BY S. HERMAN DREER

On June 15, 1938, when the refreshing breezes of departing spring were heralding the coming of a cool summer for Saint Louis, Mo., William Sanders, a graduate of the School of Journalism of Columbia University, sat at the humble desk in his office at 4575 Lawton Avenue, musing on the history of Negro journalism. He thought of John B. Russworm, who in the year 1827 graduated from Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Me. Russworm was the first Negro to graduate from an American college. In the same year he graduated he started the first newspaper ever attempted by a Negro. Sanders regarded that effort of Russworm, which sprang from great courage and altruism, as an appropriate journalistic beginning that was prophetic of our larger efforts of today.

Next, he thought of Frederick Douglass and his newspaper, "The North Star," published in Rochester, N.Y., as the voice of the Negro in slavery sounding to the world the trumpet of freedom. Then his mind drifted to William Wells Brown, author of "The Rising Son" and "The Black Man and His Antecedents," another pioneer journalist.

W. E. B. DuBois next engaged his reflection; DuBois who, for nearly a quarter of a century, edited "The Crisis," the official organ of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. He reflected how through the years DuBois with this medium educated white and black alike as to the injustices the Negro suffers in education, in industry and in politics, and of his battles to eliminate these evils.

Later he recalled how the Negro press, led by the "Crisis," with the assistance of organized labor, prevented the appointment of Judge Parker to the Supreme Court of the United States. From these reflections Sanders concluded that these journalists had done a good work and that their compensation lay in their proof that the Negro is strictly a human being, since he has a passion for justice, freedom, loyalty and equality of opportunity. These leaders, he resolved, had not sacrificed in vain.

His next ruminations brought him to thoughts of himself. His mother had washed clothes of white people in Oklahoma; his father had farmed many a day before dawn and beyond sunset; he himself had farmed early and late to earn a pittance, in order that their combined efforts laid aside each year might make it possible for him to go through college. In view of what had been done, would there be any compensation for their heroic crusading? Would he some day manage a great newspaper that would be strong enough to appeal to large numbers of conservative white people, and eventually lead them out of their prejudices into the conviction that the Negro is building a new America, that he is an asset and not a liability? Would he be able to crown the efforts of his parents by making it possible for his four brothers and five sisters slaving on their farm, struggling against jealousy and educational discrimination, to be educated according to their desires and their aptitudes? Would it be possible for him to give to his parents security and peace in their declining years?

If he could be blessed with these achievements, if his newspaper would grow, if he could place a broadcasting

This short story was written exclusively for the "Oracle" by the former Editor of the "Oracle" and Director of the Achievement Project. Brother Dreer has written this story in harmony with the theme of our Achievement Project for this year—"The Achievement of the Negro in Journalism." Assistant principal of the Sumner High School in St. Louis, our contributor is a brilliant writer, lecturer and poet. Elected historian of the Fraternity, he has recently completed the manuscript for "The History of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity," which will be ready for sale at the Conclave.

station in his plant and thereby acquaint the world with the genius of the Negro and proclaim the Negro's right to a perpetual place in the sun, he would conclude that he would have received ample compensation for his sacrifices and those of his parents, as well as those of his brothers and sisters, all of whom by their labor and their self-denial had made it possible for him to obtain his college training as a journalist.

Such were his dreams in spite of the harsh actualities that early beset his journalistic career. After having served for two years on the staff of "The Chicago Magnet," he established "The Saint Louis Herald." He had had as a partner Anderson Smith, who had worked with him only six months, who had taken away files of his subscribers, and at 2649 Franklin Avenue, Saint Louis, Mo., established a rival newspaper, called "The Saint Louis Crusader." Sanders thought of prosecuting his former partner; but then, believing that sin carries its own punishment, he proceeded to act as if Anderson Smith did not exist.

Six months after the partner had deserted Sanders the plant that printed "The Saint Louis Herald" was destroyed by fire. William had been discouraged by the desertion of Anderson, who had posed as a friend; now he was disgusted by the destruction of his plant. He was now forced to start again, if he would realize his dreams.

He was not going to stop. He would rebuild his plant. He had never ceased publication, though the printers had charged excessively, since his own printing plant was no more.

Was he doing right? Should he try something else; insurance, teaching or social service? He had been trained as a journalist through the news to inform the people of all activities and by his comment to arouse them to battle for right. When he thought of all this, he decided not to waste his precious experience by entering teaching or any other field.

The allowance he would receive from his fire insurance would help him rebuild his plant; yet he knew that his greatest assets were his training, his professional zeal and his love for humanity. He determined to achieve distinction as a journalist.

This resolution caused him to think of his love for Gloria Lee, whose father was a man of wealth, a man who had many influential friends, white and black. At once he decided to close his office and call upon the girl he hoped to make the queen of his home.



## COMPENSATION

William Sanders entered Gloria's palatial home on Enright Avenue, ushered in by her mother. Within a few minutes Gloria, dressed in white that glorified her black beauty, sat sweetly beside him.

"Gloria, my love," he began in a mood of glee.

"Yes, Bill, how happy I am to see you! This dress I wear I made today, in order that I might greet you in it this evening. Do you like it?"

"Gloria, you are truly skillful. There is no art beyond you."

"Now tell me, Bill, how you're getting along. And when do we marry?"

"My little sprite, as for our marriage, it is hard to say; but I am still existing. Tomorrow I'll collect my fire insurance claim and proceed as quickly as possible thereafter to rebuild."

"That was a great calamity; but you're so sweet, so dear, so great a hero, so great a lover of humanity, that I know you'll succeed. Now don't think that I'm rushing you; for I'm not. You have my love now and forever."

Sanders took her gently to his breast and kissed her. "My love, Gloria, with such confidence, with such devotion, I know I'm going to succeed."

"What does this mean?" asked her father, who had just entered the parlor.

"Father, it means, it means, it means—Father, leave us alone! Will you, please, for just a little while?" she pleaded. She went to her father to caress him and urge him to leave the room; but he simply pushed her aside. "What does this mean?" inquired the father again, showing his great displeasure.

"It means, it means," she stammered, "I love William. I plan to marry him."

"Marry William Sanders? Gloria, are you in your right mind?"

"Father, I am. What's wrong with Bill? He's college trained. He's industrious. He's of irreproachable character. Besides, he loves me. He's lived in St. Louis now for three years. That's long enough to discover what's in a single man. You've read his newspaper and you know it's a worthy production."

"Yes, I've read his newspaper; but he's a dirty Communist."

"Father!"

"Bill, are you a Communist?"

"No, Gloria; I'm independent in politics. I support Republicans or Democrats in proportion as they give employment to the Negro and work for his betterment as a whole."

"Father, I'm not interested in Bill's politics; I can delve into that later on. At present I'm interested in the man. I love him as a man, a man of courage, a man of humanitarian ideals, a man of honor, as the man who just last week refused to accept five thousand dollars to foster the campaign of Jack Diggs for reelection because he did not like the man's principles. Bill regarded Diggs as an unscrupulous politician. I think Bill is worthy of me."

"Gloria, you must marry a man who is already successful, a man who can bring prestige to your family. Sanders has nothing to offer you."

"Father, Bill has everything to offer me,"

"He has no money—"

"Bill, you'd better leave. My father is insulting you."

"No, Gloria," remarked Sanders courageously, "no person can insult me. Your father is speaking within his rights. Permit me to speak to him."

The father angrily retorted, "I do not care to speak with you!"

"If you will not permit me to speak with you, I must leave your house at once," spoke Sanders slowly, but firmly.

"I'll be glad for you to go," responded the father.

"If he goes, I'll go, too," said Gloria with much determination.

"It seems as though there is some confusion here," said Mrs. Lee, who entered the room in great excitement.

"There is," said Gloria. "Father has insulted the man I've promised to marry."

"Henry!" said the mother, embarrassed.

"Mother, I just can't stand a Communist. Communists have no place in our American life, whether they be white or black," shouted Mr. Lee. "Besides, this man has no money."

"But he does have, Mother, what I want; namely, character, training and intelligence. With these he has the equipment for earning money."

"Good night, Gloria," said Sanders, leaving.

"It's all right for you to go now, since Mother is here; but I'll see you soon."

"Gloria, you must put that man out of your life," exclaimed her father.

Resigned to the complexity and the chaos, William said, "Gloria, don't bother about me."

"It's fine of you to say that; but if I did not bother about you, life for me would have no meaning. So it is not 'Good Night,' but 'Au Revoir!'" spoke Gloria with assurance.

Sanders smiled at her, bowed to the parents and said, "Good night, Mr. and Mrs. Lee; and to Gloria, 'Au revoir.'" With these words, William went out to live with his dreams.

"Father, you hurt me this evening."

"I only spoke for your good. You must stay away from Communists. The government is always spying upon them. They may be thrown into prison at any time. You're my daughter. To give you a worthy place in life, I've had your mother provide you with every needed attention. We've watched your health; we've given you the best possible training at Smith's College, one of the finest schools of the East, where you obtained your bachelor's and your master's degrees. You've had excellent religious teaching. You've an excellent home. And you can expect to inherit all that your mother and I have."

"Father, I appreciate all that; but no woman's life is complete without a husband, if she can find her mate."

"Why not marry Dr. Edwards? He's very fond of you."

"But I don't like him."

"What about Julius Caruthers, who has built up an enviable real estate and insurance business?"

"He's for Clara and not for me," said Gloria, greatly composed.

"You just want to be poor. There's nothing in this newspaper business anyway," spoke her father with a sneer.

THE ORACLE



## COMPENSATION

"Robert S. Abbott, editor of the Chicago Defender; Robert L. Vann, editor of the Pittsburgh Courier; Carl Murphy, editor of the Afro-American, and J. E. Mitchell, editor of the St. Louis Argus, have proved that the Negro newspaper does amount to something. You recall the effectiveness of the editorials of the St. Louis Argus in producing a change in the management of our own Stowe Teachers' College.

"Mr. Mitchell not only gets his living out of the Argus, but twenty-seven other families obtain their daily bread through the heads of these families obtaining employment by assisting in the production of this newspaper.

"William is better trained than most of these editors. Besides, William is young, industrious and discreet," Gloria argued.

"Well," said Mr. Lee, "if you prefer him to me, if you prefer his name to mine, if you prefer him to all I have to offer you, then go to him at once." He turned from Gloria, only to meet his wife.

"Henry," said Mrs. Lee forcefully, "you're not driving your daughter out of her home, are you? Surely not!"

"She must make the choice," said the father firmly.

"Now, Henry, you cannot choose the husband of your daughter," pleaded Mrs. Lee.

"But she should marry with my approval."

"Father, I never thought that you would be unreasonable. I should like to have your approval; but I know that I can't have everything I wish," spoke Gloria with resignation.

"This is what I get for giving her a real chance. This is my compensation," remarked the father in disgust.

"Father, you've received great compensation from my life. You've been cheered by my smiles. You've taken pride in my scholastic attainments. You've found real joy in my being intelligent and yet sensible. I don't smoke, drink or carouse. I don't go to night clubs. I've taken on no vicious modern ways. I owed you a chaste life, and so I have lived. Neither wealth nor social prestige has spoiled me."

"Now you're about to lose all these virtues."

"I shall not lose; I shall gain."

"I'm through," said her father, regarding his efforts to win Gloria to his way of thinking in vain. "I give up."

"Henry! Henry! Henry!" spoke Mrs. Lee, as she fell to the floor in a faint.

"See what you've done to your mother," said the father.

"I'll get the smelling salts and some cold water," was Gloria's remark.

As soon as the mother was revived, Gloria accompanied her to the nearest bedroom. The father started to follow them, but Mrs. Lee said gently, "Daddy, I must talk with Gloria alone."

The father sank into his favorite arm-chair and began to debate with himself concerning his attitude towards his daughter's affairs.

A half-hour later Gloria came downstairs in a traveling suit and with a suitcase. She went to her father and said, "Goodbye, Father."

"Are you leaving us?"

"Yes, Father; I'm going to the man I love," said Gloria tenderly.

"But you should be married in this house and all St. Louis should shower you with gifts."

"I should like that; but you yourself stand in the way. Goodbye, Father."

He rose from his seat and called, "Gloria! Gloria, my dear! little Gloria!"

Gloria had gone.

\* \* \* \*

William, upon leaving, at first roamed wildly about the streets of St. Louis. Eventually he went to the cafeteria of Pine Street Y.M.C.A. for supper.

As he tried to eat, several young ladies endeavored to engage his attention; but Sanders was thinking only of Gloria. He was as courteous to them as he could be; but since they would not leave him, he politely said that he had an appointment and hurried to his office.

There he saw standing before the closed door on the sidewalk his lovely Gloria.

She promptly remarked, "I knew that you would come here at some time; so I just decided to wait."

"Have you been here long?"

"Oh, just about a half hour."

"I don't want my beloved waiting like that."

"I'll have to wait longer after we're married; so I just as well begin to get used to it now."

"Where are you going, my dear little girl?" asked Sanders with a heart full of glee to have Gloria near him.

"Nowhere now. I've reached my destination," replied jubilant Gloria. "I came here to see you."

"But you have a traveling bag."

"I should have my trunk."

"What do you mean?"

"Bill, you're not dense. You know that I've left home to come to you. I cannot let my father choose my husband. That is an act for me alone."

"But I'm not ready to marry. I must first rebuild my plant and then build a home for you comparable to that your father has sheltered you in all your life."

"Bill, the Rev. Mr. Jones, my pastor, is waiting for us."

"But we have no license. Think what you're doing. You're leaving a great inheritance," remarked Sanders.

"Bill, you're worth to me more than all my father has; in short, more than the world. It is not necessary for you to put me in a feathered nest. Let us together make our home. I have not only a trained mind; I have trained hands. I can sew, cook, nurse, decorate, photograph and decorate. I've come to help you. The Rev. Mr. Jones is waiting to marry us."

When William and Gloria reached the home of the venerable Rev. Mr. Jones, he said to William, "Gloria is to remain with my wife tonight and you're to go with me to attend a session of the Missouri Baptist Association at Festus."

"What about my newspaper? There will be telephone calls, which should be answered," was the anxious statement of Sanders.

"Isn't Gloria worth more than your newspaper and more than your telephone calls?" spoke the Rev. Mr. Jones persuasively.

"Then her good name must remain untarnished. Within an hour we shall be in Festus. There we'll spend the night. Tomorrow morning we'll return to St. Louis."

"The Rev. Mr. Jones, I'm in your hands."

The next morning at the home of the Rev. Mr. Jones, William Sanders and Gloria Lee became husband and wife.



## COMPENSATION

When the bride and groom reached the office of the St. Louis Herald, they found there a telegram, which read as follows:

"Seems oil found on our farm. Your acres they say especially good. Following your request. Would sign nothing until you come. Hurry.

"Your father,

"Edward Sanders."

"Gloria, let us pray," was the jubilant wish of William. He prayed: "Heavenly Father, we thank Thee for each other. We thank Thee for Thy blessings. Thou art giving happiness to my mother, my father, my sisters and my brothers. May we ever be worthy of Thy providential care. Amen."

"Bill, I must say a prayer, too. 'Father, we thank Thee for our love and our happiness. Because we are happy, may we ever carry cheer to others. Amen.'

"Bill, does that telegram mean that you're to be a millionaire?"

"Yes, Gloria, because of the good sense of my parents. I have urged them many a time under no condition to sell their land or lease it. I told them if ever oil was discovered upon it or even if they thought that such was there, not to sign any paper until I could read the document. They have followed my advice. So we shall go up together. Now, you need more clothes, Gloria."

"No, William, these will do. But I must go back home now."

"Suppose I say 'No.'"

"Then I wouldn't go; but you're going with me."

"Your father's not there. We should go there only with his consent."

"I'll telephone him."

When they reached the house, Mr. Lee had already arrived.

Gloria began by saying, "Father, I'm leaving St. Louis today with William for Oklahoma. Congratulate my husband." Mr. Lee was silent. He stood up, went to a window, looked out and then sat down again.

Gloria continued: "Oil has been discovered on his farm and he's going to be a millionaire."

Sanders said, "Mr. Lee, though I expect to receive great wealth, I shall always continue to be a humble newspaperman battling for the progress of the Negro."

Mr. Lee arose again and moved towards William and said, "Pardon my reproaches of yesterday. Gloria was right; I was wrong. Since you have my daughter's heart, you have my best wishes for happiness." Mr. Lee shook hands with William sincerely. The father kissed his daughter and said, "Young man, I could not keep my daughter from you. Now she is yours. If you ever tire of her, do not abuse her; bring her back kindly here where she was reared. I'm truly happy."

"Father, you know we are."

"Gloria, when you return from Oklahoma, we must have that wedding," Mr. Lee added.

"Father, it's not necessary; but whatever you wish to do will be all right with us; won't it, Bill?"

"It certainly will," consented Sanders.

"Mother, aren't you happy?"

Mrs. Lee kissed William and Gloria.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee took Gloria and William in their automobile to the Union Station, and the bride and groom dashed South to fortune, fame and happiness.

Mr. Lee was satisfied he had his compensation and so was William Sanders, the journalist.

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## DISTRICT REPORTS

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### REPORT OF FIRST DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE, EVERETT YATES

Briefly, my plans for the district are as follows:

1. To assist the officers of both Eta Phi and Gamma Chapters in stimulating interest and building up the membership of their respective Chapters:

(a) By urging inactive brothers to become active and be affiliated with one or the other of the Chapters.

(b) Seeking to have members of graduate status now remaining in the undergraduate Chapter transferred to the graduate Chapter.

Note: The above two Chapters are the only active ones at the present writing.

2. To assist the Chapters in formulating plans to pay off existing indebtedness.

3. To revive Eta and Alpha Psi Chapters.

4. To have every Omega man in the First District become financial, both with his Chapter and the fraternity.

5. To fully cooperate with the fraternity in bringing to the attention of the public the Annual Essay Contest

In compliance with instructions from the Cleveland Conclave held last December, the "Oracle," with this issue, presents the reports of the activities from the various districts, insofar as the reports have come in. In July letters were sent to all District Representatives, the majority answering that they would comply. However, as we go to press on October 1, only those which appear came to the editor's desk. We appreciate the cooperation of those who complied with the Conclave's wishes in the matter.

and the Negro Achievement Week Project.

At the present time I am happy to report that some progress has been made in some of the above plans, as follows:

1. Eta Phi, under the leadership of Brother Clyde Coates, and Gamma, under the leadership of Brother Burrows, have met regularly and have had a goodly number of brothers out to each meeting. The average has been 20 to 25 for each Chapter.



## DISTRICT REPORTS

2. Eta Phi has added several brothers who had discontinued their affiliation for one reason or another, or who were not affiliated with any Chapter.

3. Eta Phi and Gamma Chapters have jointly given several public affairs for the purpose of raising money to clear up existing indebtedness and to increase their treasuries. The annual boat-ride given in July was the most successful.

4. Both Chapters have fully cooperated in bringing to the public the Annual Essay Contest by means of local publications and by notices to churches.

5. Plans to revive Eta and Alpha Psi Chapters have not materialized as yet; but a district conference in October is in the offing, at which time we expect to have present every Omega man in the district. Also, a motorcade to several colleges in Northern New England is planned for September.

6. On Sunday, March 13, 1938, the district observed the Colonel Charles Young memorial program at the People's Baptist Church. The Rev. Mr. Owen, pastor of the church, is a brother.

7. On Friday, March 18, Eta Phi Chapter sponsored a group of W.P.A. players in the comedy drama, "Jericho."

8. Eta Phi suspended her activities for the summer with a closed banquet, and Gamma climaxed her activities with a formal dance.

In closing, may I say that developments throughout the year have suggested further plans as follows:

1. That the wives of Omega men in the district be organized into a ladies' auxiliary. A meeting toward this end has been held.

2. That each of the two national projects be presented by all Chapters in the district, viz.: the Colonel Charles Young memorial and National Achievement Week.

I am happy to report that there is much enthusiasm for the fraternity in Boston. The greatest difficulty at present is the reviving of Alpha Psi so as to be in a position to better reach prospective men attending college in upper New England. However, I am hopeful of reporting a real live Chapter in that section at the next conclave.

### REPORT OF SIXTH DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE, S. HERBERT ADAMS

Acting upon the assumption that I was still District Representative until such time as I may have been notified to the contrary, I continued my work among the several Chapters in the district. Circular letters have been sent out monthly, and in these we stressed particularly the District Conference. A full report of this will be given in the next quarter's report.

Investigations were made of three institutions seeking charters for Chapters of the fraternity. These were Benedict College and Allen University, of Columbia, S.C., and Claflin University, of Orangeburg, S.C. Having found that these institutions measured up to the requirements of the fraternity, we recommended Chapters for the first two. These Chapters have not yet been set up. It is hoped that the one at Allen University will be set up before the close of the school year. The one at Benedict College may not be set up before next fall, due to

the fact that the administration is requiring a scholarship average of "B" for students to be initiated into a fraternity. The members of Omicron Phi Chapter are assisting me in this matter, and have advised me that only six students so far have been able to meet scholarship requirements of the College as well as those of the fraternity. In the case of Claflin University, I have already completed my investigations and will recommend a chapter for this institution.

On January 23 I attended the tenth anniversary of Xi Psi Chapter at Orangeburg, S.C., appearing on the program at which Brother Edgar Love was principal speaker.

The following Chapters have been visited during the quarter: Rho, Xi Psi, Lambda Psi, Kappa Alpha, Pi Phi. I delivered the main address of the Colonel Charles Young program sponsored by Kappa Alpha Chapter.

The second quarter of the current year has been an extremely busy one, and we believe that much good has been accomplished. On April 22 and 23 the Sixth District Conference was held at Wilmington, N.C., with Omicron Alpha Chapter as host. The conference was quite a success, with delegates from ten Chapters in attendance. The minutes of this conference have already been sent out, and I need not go into detailed report. We believe that as a result of this conference, a new life and vigor have been implanted in the Chapters and in each brother in the district.

On May 1 we set up Lambda Sigma Chapter, an undergraduate Chapter at Claflin College, Orangeburg, S.C., at which time fourteen men were initiated and became charter members of Lambda Sigma. We were assisted by brothers from Xi Psi, Rho and Epsilon Omega. On May 28 Mu Sigma, another undergraduate Chapter, was set up at Allen University, Columbia, S.C., when nine were initiated. We were again assisted by brothers from Xi Psi, Omicron Phi and Kappa Alpha Chapters. We believe that both of these Chapters will be assets to the fraternity. We are at present working with a group of about sixty detached brothers in Greenville, S.C.; Spartanburg, S.C., and Anderson, S.C., with a view of organizing and setting up a Chapter among this group. In addition to the above, we took an active part in a smoker sponsored by Pi Phi of Charlotte for the undergraduate brothers of Rho at Johnson C. Smith University. This took place on May 18. With the colleges closed, a great number of brothers were graduated, and there was a period of inactivity among the undergraduate brothers.

### REPORT OF TENTH DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE, CHARLES E. HARRY

The Tenth District comprises the states of Michigan, Illinois and Indiana. Of the six Chapters in the district, five are active and in good condition at this time. While I have not visited the Chapters in Chicago, my knowledge of the ability of these brothers to put things over prompts me to warn all brothers who miss the twenty-seventh Conclave that they will really be missing something.

By vote of the 1937 District Conference held in Indianapolis, the conference this year will meet November 11



## DISTRICT REPORTS

and 12, with Phi Chapter at Ann Arbor. The conference theme is "The Constitution." The Conclave meeting in the district, plus the fine program mapped out by Brother Charles W. Clark, Basileus of Phi Chapter, give promise of a profitable conference.

This is the tentative program for the Tenth District Conference at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, November 11 and 12:

Friday, November 11: Afternoon, opening meeting, 8 to 9 p.m.; evening, formal dance, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Saturday, November 12: Morning, business meeting, 10 to 12 a.m.; afternoon, football game; evening, business meeting and smoker combined, 7:30 to 11 p.m.

### REPORT OF ELEVENTH DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE, A. P. HAMBLIN

In this district there are four graduate Chapters and three undergraduate Chapters. The three undergraduate Chapters are functioning one hundred per cent, but one of the graduate Chapters is practically inactive, one in a state of reorganization and another seemingly asleep.

The questionnaire concerning Chapter activities was sent out in May. No report was received from Iota Psi, of Columbus, and none from Zeta Omega, of Cleveland. I have talked to members of both Chapters and have found that they carried on some activities during the year. Zeta Omega served as host to the Conclave during the past year, therefore carrying on considerable activity. Perhaps it was because of this activity that they did not answer the questionnaire.

Iota Psi, of Columbus, met during the year at least once, as I talked with one of the members during the Thanksgiving holiday period. I have received no answer to any of my letters addressed to that Chapter, so can only consider the Chapter inactive. This Chapter has failed to answer any correspondence in two years. One of the members informed me that they were trying to get organized again, but that they did not have the spirit that he was accustomed to in his undergraduate Chapter.

During the past year I have visited and met four of the Chapters in this district and found these four very active in the activities of the place in which they were located. Those visited were Theta Psi, of West Virginia State College; Xi Alpha, of Charleston, W.Va.; Zeta Sigma, of Bluefield State Teachers' College, and Upsilon, of Wilberforce University.

A study made shows the condition of the district to be better this year than last. There were 21 more financial graduate men, two more undergraduate men, and a total increase of 23 financial men over last year. This was due to a grand increase in Xi Alpha and the return of Delta Alpha to the fold. Xi Alpha had an increase of 25 men, while Delta Alpha came up with five. This more than offsets the 11 who were credited to Zeta Omega who did not report this year. Xi Alpha Chapter, of Charleston, must be commended for having the greatest number of men and showing the greatest increase in numbers over last year.

The Chapters initiated nine more men this year than last. Four men less were initiated during the first semester than were initiated last year; but the Chapters

came back with 13 more than were initiated during the second semester of last year. We thus made some progress in getting members. Theta Psi, with 22 men, led the parade. Her increase over last year was seven. Upsilon fell off one. Xi Alpha does no initiating.

The spring proms lead the list of expenditures for the year with \$399.12. Xi Alpha leads the list in amount spent for this project with \$155, which seems to indicate that the boys in West Virginia believe in showing their friends a good time. Theta Psi is not so far behind their Charleston brothers in the matter of entertainment, with \$99.12. As a group, the average was \$79.82 per prom. When it comes to proms, however, I will have to go to West Virginia. In cost per man, Theta Psi is the aristocrat of the Chapters. Dues per year are the highest in this Chapter. Upsilon has the biggest smoker of the year and surpasses the others with their memorial program and their Achievement Week program. According to our survey, Wilberforce alone is represented at the Conclave, because none of the others reported any expenditure along that line. It seems that we spent twice as much on the proms as we spent on all the other activities put together. After all, however, we are a social organization. More money spent this year on the programs than last year would seem to indicate that we have progressed in spreading our propaganda to a greater degree and that we have widened our sphere of influence.

All the Chapters seem to have a program committee that plans the program for the year, but Upsilon and Delta Alpha do not work under a budget system, and evidently do not have a planned spending program. Xi Alpha put the most money into her activities this year.

I find that the several Chapters in this district have carried on other activities during the past year which are listed by some and not by others. These projects are in some cases worthy of mention. Xi Alpha sponsored 300 children in an Easter cantata on Easter Sunday in Charleston, W.Va. These children were from Huntington, W.Va. This project cost \$125 and was a non-profit proposition. They have contributed to the Red Cross and the N.A.A.C.P. Other Chapters have contributed to the following projects: tuberculosis stamps, homecoming programs, crippled children stamps, Red Cross, N.A.A.C.P. play tournament trophy, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Salvation Army.

A district conference was called for May 14, 1938. I received answers to the announcement from all Chapters except Iota Psi and Zeta Omega. Upsilon and Delta Alpha sent word they would not be able to be represented. Theta Psi entertained royally on the night before the business meetings were held, and some 40 brothers were present for the spring prom.

The district, I feel, has made considerable progress, particularly the Chapters in the State of West Virginia and Wilberforce in Ohio. Delta Alpha, of Dayton, is coming back to life, and I hope that Iota Psi can be rejuvenated. Zeta Omega, of Cleveland, was probably snowed under by the Conclave held there last year, so probably has not recovered as yet. I hope that they will answer such correspondence as I send out to them, however, so I will know whether or not they are receiving any of the materials I am sending them.



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KRS. Lewis McNally, 1139 Mississippi Ave.

PSI PSI—Fayetteville, Ky.  
Bas., Randall Acton, Kentucky State College  
KRS. Walker Moore, Kentucky State College

ALPHA OMEGA—Washington, D. C.  
Bas., T. Alfred Scott, Jr., 2121 2nd St., N. W.  
KRS. J. Arthur Weiseger, 1266 Columbia Rd., N. W.

DELTA OMEGA—Ettricks, Va.  
Bas., G. B. Singleton, Va. State College

EPSILON OMEGA—Orangeburg, S. C.  
Bas., V. E. Sheffield, S. C. State College

ZETA OMEGA—Cleveland, Ohio  
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KRS. Howard Gresham, 2118 E. 46th St.

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KRS. M. J. Beavers, 788 Greensferry Ave.

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KRS. J. E. Hawkins, 609 W. Walnut St.

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KRS. Dr. H. J. Reynolds, 915 N. 6th St.

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KRS. T. R. Fortson, 228 E. Canfield Ave.

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KRS. E. H. Hunter, 1162 N. Greenwood

PI OMEGA—Baltimore, Md.  
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KRS. Percy Ash, 1654 Waseca Place

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KRS. B. L. Dent, 826 Ninth St.

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KRS. Dr. W. B. Scott, 406 Kansas Ave.

BETA PHI—Durham, N. C.  
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KRS. A. H. Turner, Box 1875

GAMMA PHI—Nashville, Tenn.  
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KRS. J. W. Beasley, 1112 Jackson St.

ZETA PHI—Indianapolis, Ind.  
Bas., Fred Ransom, 828 N. California St.  
KRS. Paul Johnson, 2307 Indianapolis Ave.

ETA PHI—Cambridge, Mass.  
Bas., C. Coates, 85 Inman St.  
KRS. G. M. Solomon, 85 Inman St.

EPSILON PHI—Memphis, Tenn.  
KRS. B. Lewis, 1175 Cannon St.

THETA PHI—Jacksonville, Fla.  
Bas., Dr. Leroy C. Ervin, 103 E. Union St.  
KRS. Wm. S. Robinson, 610 W. Duval St.

IOTA PHI—Pittsburgh, Pa.  
Bas., Dr. C. L. Mellon, 325 Mayflower St.

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MU PHI—Savannah, Ga.  
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NU PHI—Houston, Texas  
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KRS. Wm. Moore, 1614 Carr St.

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Bas., E. B. Weatherless, 405 Carlton Ave.  
KRS. Philip Jones, 327 Halsey St.

OMICRON PHI—Columbia, S. C.  
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KRS. T. J. Hansberry, 600 Marion St.

PI PHI—Charlotte, N. C.  
KRS. L. Alexander, 517 S. Caldwell St.

RHO PHI—New Orleans, La.  
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KRS. Cecil Carter, 2107 Dryades St.

SIGMA PHI—Montgomery, Ala.  
Bas., Dr. R. T. Adair, 208 1/2 Monroe St.  
KRS. H. L. Van Dyke, State Teachers College

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