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MAZYCK MEMORIAL NUMBER

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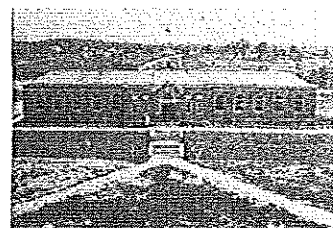
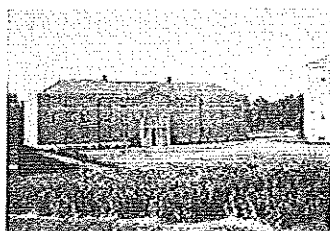
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(Continued on inside back cover)



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The North Carolina College for Negroes is the only liberal arts college in the south supported entirely out of public funds. The college stands ready to do anything in its power to make the stay of those who are visiting the conclave pleasant. The college believes that the principles of your Fraternity are sound and will aid much in the forward progress of the race if they are carried out.

WE BID YOU WELCOME

JAMES E. SHEPHERD,
President.



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The Oracle

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GRAND BASILEUS' DURHAM CONCLAVE LETTER

November 15, 1933.

To Brothers-in-Omega

Greeting:

The 1933 Grand Conclave of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity will convene in Durham, North Carolina, December 27, 28, and 29. As we approach the Durham meeting, Omega faces a real crisis,—a crisis which calls for an active expression of interest on the part of every loyal son of Omega.

Many matters await the attention and action of the delegates to the Durham Conclave,—the problem of re-financing the Washington House, the adoption of a re-vised Ritual, Constitution and By-Laws, and the consid-eration of a proposed constitution for the guidance of Lampados clubs,—these, and many other important busi-ness matters must have our attention.

As much as I desire to see new blood coming into the Fraternity, I wish to re-emphasize my belief that the life and future well-being of Omega are dependent in largest measure upon a program, having for its chief pur-pose the re-claiming of those brothers who have come within the sacred folds of our Fraternity, and who are now non-financial with our national office and their local chapter. I therefore, make this personal appeal to every Omega man to become financial; and I delegate each member a committee of one to secure the reinstatement of one other Omega brother now unfinancial. At the sug-gestion of your Grand Basileus, the Supreme Council adopted the slogan:

FIVE HUNDRED OMEGA MEN REINSTATED BEFORE THE DURHAM CONCLAVE

Grand Marshall, Brother George Cox, and his very excellent committee are sparing no pains to insure the comfort and entertainment of the delegates and visiting friends. For four years Beta Phi Chapter has been pre-paring for the proper entertainment of the Conclave; and I join with my brothers in Beta Phi in extending a most cordial invitation to Omega men to turn their faces toward Durham and accord to us in the "OLD NORTH STATE" the opportunity and privilege of showering them with real "sure-to-goodness" "SOUTHERN HOS-PITALITY."

Elsewhere in this issue of the Oracle I pay my per-sonal tribute to that noble son of Omega, our late Grand Keeper of Records and Seals, Brother Walter H. Mazyck. I cannot find words to express the great loss Omega suffered in his death; but it is for those of us who are left to "carry on."

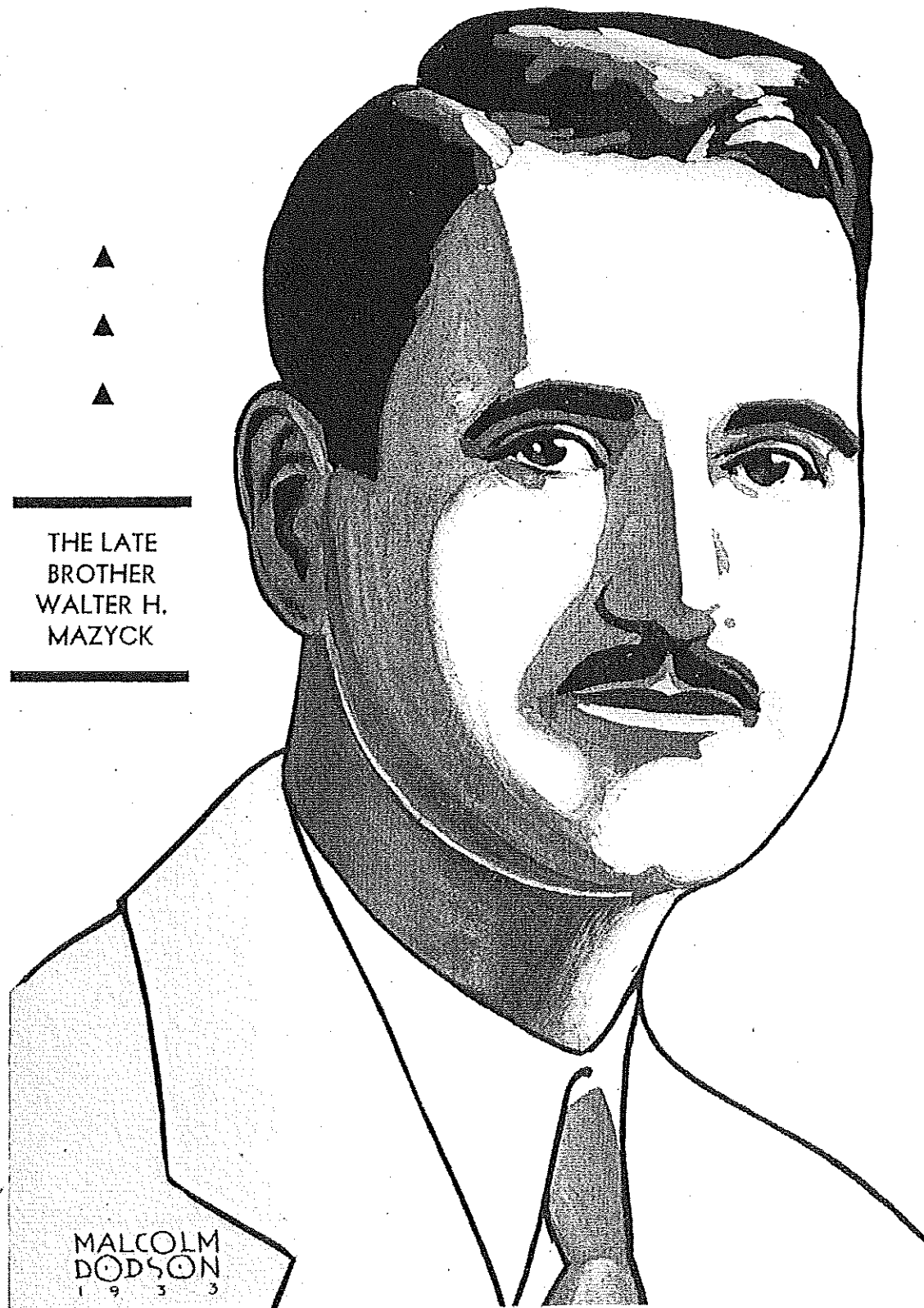
Fraternally yours,

LAWRENCE A. OXLEY,
Grand Basileus.



▲
▲
▲

THE LATE
BROTHER
WALTER H.
MAZYCK



A TRIBUTE TO THE LATE BROTHER WALTER H. MAZYCK

By LAWRENCE A. OXLEY

*Now the labourer's task is o'er;
Now the battle day is past;
Now upon the farther shore
Lands the voyager at last.
Father, in thy gracious keeping
Leave we now thy servant sleeping.*

*"Earth to earth, and dust to dust,"
Calmly now the words we say,
Left behind, we wait in trust
For the resurrection day.
Father, in thy gracious keeping
Leave we now thy servant sleeping.*

—John Ellerton, 1870.

OUR beloved Grand Keeper of Records and Seals, Walter H. Mazyck, died at Washington, D. C., Monday, August 7, 1933. For over ten years he directed the work of Omega with an efficiency that left no question as to his interest and abilities. Much of the modern structure of Omega was built by Walter Mazyck. The quality of intelligence, gentleness of manner and a fine disregard of selfish interest which characterized his work, have enriched the traditions of high devotion and able service that have distinguished our Fraternity and made it a social force in the life of the Negro.

Walter Mazyck brought to Omega many gifts. Perhaps the greatest of which was unselfish service. To him the welfare of Omega, the widening of its influence and the extending of the service which the Fraternity could render to our racial group were of the greatest importance. To this end he worked long and faithfully, entirely forgetful of self, co-operating in every move to further the cause of Omega and remaining always in the background. So quietly did he work that many will never know the full extent and significance of his contributions.

In his work for Omega, Walter Mazyck was painstaking and thorough; no needful task was left undone; no matter how small or unimportant it might seem to others, to him it was something that needed to be done in order to perfect a larger, more important piece of work. Gentle but strong, clear thinking and energetic, faithful, loyal, high-minded and conscientious, his work is enduring, a large part of Omega's glory, a lasting memorial to his marked abilities and his unselfishness.

All Omega mourns the loss of a great man and brother.



▲
▲
THE LATEST
PHOTOGRAPH
OF THE LATE
WALTER H.
MAZYCK
TAKEN WITH
HIS BRIDE
OF A FEW
MONTHS
▼

At high noon of December 22, 1932, at Charleston, West Virginia, Mrs. and Brother Walter H. Mazyck were married. Mrs. Mazyck was née Naomi Grant and is a member of one of the established families of Charleston, South Carolina. Mrs. Mazyck is a graduate of the Morris Brown University and is well known, admired and liked in the social circles of both Charleston, S. C., and Washington, D. C. Brother Mazyck had known his bride since childhood and their respective families had been friends before them so it was natural that they should find mutual happiness with each other. In reference to their happiness, Brother Mazyck often said to his friends before his last illness, "These last seven months have been the happiest of my entire life and no one can take them from me."

CAPTAIN WALTER HERBERT MAZYCK

By CAMPBELL C. JOHNSON

"Death will come to you, I think,
Like an old shrewd gardener
Culling his rarest blossoms. . . ."

—STERLING BROWN.

WALTER HERBERT MAZYCK was born in Charleston, South Carolina, December 14, 1895. He received his early schooling at Winslow's Private School and Avery Institute in that city. At the completion of his studies at Avery in 1914, he matriculated at Howard University, Washington, D. C., and, except for a period of absence during the World War, made his home in Washington until his death on August 7, 1933.

Brother Walter Mazyck made an enviable scholastic record at Howard. A brilliant academic career was followed by scholastic achievements while pursuing his law course that after eleven years remain unequalled. He led one of the largest law classes in the history of the Howard University School of Law during the entire three years of his course, winning every first prize offered and received his degree of Bachelor of Laws Magna cum Laude.

Immediately after his graduation in law Brother Mazyck passed the District of Columbia Bar and was admitted to practice before the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia. His law partners were Brothers John W. Love and Campbell C. Johnson.

It is difficult to evaluate a life even when it is viewed from the perspective of many years. When one stands virtually at the bier, the task is futile. Especially is this true in the case of Brother Mazyck. Those who knew him best are so filled with poignant sorrow at their loss and at the loss which has been sustained in the fields of his varied interests that they have not been able dispassionately to consider the great extent of his service.

In 1917, even before his country entered the World War, Brother Mazyck volunteered his services. Together with other students of Howard University, he fought for the establishment of an Officers Training Camp for colored officers at Des Moines, Iowa. When this camp was realized, he enlisted and was discharged on October 15, 1917, to be commissioned a first lieutenant of infantry. He was assigned to the 368th Infantry at Camp Meade, Maryland. After several months in camp, he was taken ill and ordered to the Army Base Hospital at New Haven, Connecticut. His regiment left for France before he had recovered sufficiently to rejoin it.

Lieut. Mazyck was later ordered to Marshall, Texas, where he served as Adjutant of the Students Army Training Corps Unit.

After his discharge from the army in 1919, he was commissioned first lieutenant in the Officers Reserve Corps. On the formation of the 428th Infantry he was assigned to the organization and promoted to the rank of captain in 1929. Captain Mazyck served as Regimental Adjutant until his death.

It is interesting to observe the different spheres that knew Brother Mazyck. In each one he gave his best. That was his code. Consequently, his passing has cut deep.

After his discharge from the Army, Brother Mazyck received appointment as a clerk in the Navy Department where a section was being developed to handle the pay of thousands of Naval Reservists throughout the country. He grew with the section, was promoted to law clerk or technical adviser and help to write the laws that control it, was called upon to advise in the interpretation of the laws, prepared decisions for the Comptroller General and served as representative of the important Retainer Pay Section, Division of Supplies and Accounts of the Navy Department where legal matters were involved.

When Brother Mazyck passed, men and women who had worked along side him for years wept and his immediate superior officer said, "It is foolish to say we are going to replace Mr. Mazyck. His place just cannot be filled. It will take years to train a man who will be half as good."

Very few of us have considered Brother Mazyck as a lawyer, yet his bril-

liant record as a law student marked him for a prominent place in the profession. His practice in the firm of Love, Johnson and Mazyck and the cases which he handled subsequently showed him to be possessed of more than ordinary ability. The lawyers among his friends were constantly expressing their regret that he would not throw himself fully into the practice.

It is difficult to say when Brother Mazyck first began to take an interest in writing. As far back as his college days he essayed some short literary sketches, most of which were kept very private. Several years ago, however, he began to evince a keen interest in history and biography, particularly the history of the Negro in America and the biographies of outstanding personalities in our national life. He studied these lives to determine primarily their relation to the Negro.



CAPT. WALTER H. MAZYCK

THE FUNERAL PROCESSION LEAVING THE CHURCH



MY FRIEND AND PAL, WALTER HERBERT MAZYCK

By LINWOOD G. KOGER

"TO HAVE a friend is to have one of the sweetest and dearest gifts that life can bring. A friend gives us confidence for life. A friend makes us go out of ourselves. A friend takes heed of our health, our work, our aims, our plans. A friend remembers us when we have forgotten ourselves. A friend may praise us, and we are not embarrassed; may rebuke us, and we are not angered. A friend may do that for us which we can not gracefully do for ourselves. A friend may be silent, yet we understand."

HE WAS MY FRIEND! He was my PAL! He gave me confidence. I went out of myself gladly for him. He heeded my health, my work, my aims, my plans. He remembered me so often when I had forgotten myself. He praised me and I knew he meant every word. He rebuked me and I knew he did it because he thought it would help me. He did, O, so many things which I could not have gracefully done for myself. Often he was silent when I thought he would have spoken to me, for me, against me; yet, it was not long before I understood why he was silent. He was my FRIEND! My PAL!

HE was a GREAT SOUL. He had a BIG HEART, a loving spirit. He forgave much, forbore much, forgot much. He sacrificed for me. He denied himself for me. He was my friend at a GREAT cost. He spent time and patience in my behalf. He LOVED me. One of the most cherished jewels of my life was this thought: That I need have no care, my REAL friend and pal, never tries, nor wants to get away from me. We shared all things temporal and spiritual together. His joys were my joys, his sorrows my sorrows and the converse. And so often, whither one went the other also went. What more could be said, than, HE was my friend and pal?

For twenty years, he never deceived me. He did not cheat. He was no chiseler. He was reliable. He was honest. He was loyal. He was consistent. His integrity was second to no man's. In all the qualities that go to make up character he was a thoroughly genuine man. He was my friend and pal.

He achieved. He was the highest honor student on the entire program when he graduated in law of the classes of 1922. He was an officer and organized one of the best Student Army Training Camps at Wiley University during the World War. He created and perfected a filing cabinet system in the Navy Department, the like of which had never been seen there. For about seven years, the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity revolved around him as its axis. He wrote "George Washington and the Negro," an original unique style which drew favorable comments from the leading newspapers and literary critics colored and white throughout the Nation. This was MY friend and pal.

He was my room-mate during my college years at Howard University. He was in my company with his bed directly across from mine at Fort Des Moines, Ia. He was assigned to the same Camp Meade, Maryland, to train soldiers. We sat beside each other in our college classes; our company classes and camp lectures; our law classes. We interchanged visits mid-week or week-ends. We slept in each other's home any time. In him, were happily blended the qualities which adorn public service and dignify private life. The character and opinions of this intellectually great pal always enforced respect and confidence whatever the pleasantries of his manner. WE were friends and pals.

When death entered upon my friend my sorrow was so consuming that it could only be measured by the singular depth and intensity of my love for him. He in the hour of his greatest glory, in the very zenith of his success and fame, was transferred, as it were, in the twinkling of an eye, by grim death to the great pages of history. How the memory of his kind acts, his gentle deeds of charity and of mercy, plead against the deep damnation of his taking off. The final and nobler tribute to him is yet to be rendered, not by me alone as his pal, not by his bereaved widow and personal friends, not by fraternity brothers. A knowledge of his life and character is to be carried by generations yet unborn, throughout an oppressed race and into a great nation. MY BEST FRIEND AND PAL, WALTER HERBERT MAZYCK.

POEMS BY WALTER H. MAZYCK

THE TWO ROSES

I plucked a bud, a crimson bud,
A bud of flaming red;
In close embrace its petals hung
Concealing beauties yet unsung.
While dew drops of the morning hung
Upon its emerald bed.

I breathed a kiss, a fleeting kiss,
A kiss, my soul desired;
And its velvet surface bright
Waking from the chilly night
Blushing in the morning light
Another kiss inspired.

I saw a rose, a fair, white rose,
A rose of spotless white;
Its petals open snowy lay,
No secrets hidden from the day
As it drinks the sun's high ray
While blooming in the light.

I held the bud, the crimson bud,
Yet craved the rose of white;
I strained to reach its snowy face
To touch it, kiss it, and embrace,
Forgetting all the red bud's grace
In its reflected light.

I reached at last the rose's place
The flower white, I seized
But in my grasp, its petals tore,
It suffered much, I suffered more
The red bud in my hand—I swore
To death its heart I squeezed.

LINCOLN MEMORIAL BRIDGE

YOUR rhythmic arches curve in grace
While rippling ringlets round them race
Your measured spans in perfect line
Portray a song to eyes like mine.

With fingers stretching from each strand
Your arches form a mighty hand;
Am I a fool, because I dream,
You play a chord upon the stream?

You link Lee's home with Lincoln's shrine
And in this welling soul of mine
I hear your constant symphony
Of north and south in harmony.

EDITORIALS

They Say He's Dead

MANY people are born, live and die without contributing one iota to the welfare of humanity or to the happiness of their immediate associates. To some with a Pollyanna complex this may sound harsh, but once they are interred they are truly dead. Very much dead, never having lived. . . . Some few lead lives so dynamic, become so imbedded in the hearts of those fortunate enough to know them, have mentalities so acute, possess abilities so diversified and are so creative and productive that they become subjective realities not dependent upon corporeal existence. And a subjective reality is much more real than a physical reality. So it is with Mazyck—Mazyck—ah, there's a name that means much. No need to bolster it with euphonious given names and titles.

To Omega men Mazyck was more than a name or a person, he was an institution. He typified loyalty, good fellowship and an uncanny efficiency. He possessed an especially keen and analytical mind together with a photographic memory. Many are the snarls he has untangled in the business sessions of the conclaves or in Supreme Council meetings. Going to Mazyck with a question was more productive of results than hours of thumbing the Constitutions and By-Laws or the Ritual. Without clerical aid he answered a large volume of correspondence without the delay of a single day. In every chapter the name Mazyck symbolized the national office.

To the Navy Department, where he was employed, Mazyck was indispensable. In writing to his widow his superior officer so stated adding that had he lived a few months longer he would have been put in charge of his department. The officer further stated that the department did not expect to be able to replace him. Surely he lives in the hearts of his fellow workers.

To the critical readers of history the name Mazyck means the writer of "George Washington and the Negro," a writer who went to the first sources and labored hard to produce an authoritative work written in a particularly clear and lucid style. Before he died Mazyck had completed gathering the notes for a similar work to be known as "Abraham Lincoln and the Negro" and had completed all but twenty-five pages of a manuscript on Colonel Charles Young.

There are those who know him as an able practising attorney. The profession suffered because he was not able to devote more of his attention to his practise.

To those who knew him socially Mazyck was a scintillating wit, a facile conversationalist and a likeable companion. He liked people and in turn was liked by all. The writer retains a vivid picture of Mazyck, whether on the floor at an Omega Formal or at an informal gathering of friends; smiling, slightly flushed and with here and there a truant lock of hair; the center of interest. Many others will keep that picture.

He lived a full, productive and creative life. He lives vividly in the memory of thousands. And yet they say he's dead.

Nunc est Bibendum

THE noble experiment has taken a double back tumble and stretched out flatter than the Lincoln Highway. Legal liquor will once more gurggle musically from jug, bottle and decanter and gladden the eye with its amber glint at the same time soothing the olfactory organ with its delicate bouquet.

Many evils attended the Saloon Age. Still more vicious vices flourished in the Speakeasy Epoch. Now the problem is to minimize the potential evils of the Great Come-back. With proper government supervision and not too prohibitive taxation the return of alcoholic drinks should yield a great revenue. Prohibition handed prosperity to the Bootlegger on a platinum platter and he will fight to the bitter end by price cutting competition, hijacking and intimidation of legitimate dealers. Many domestic drinkers have acquired an amazing facility in the blending of bath-tub gin and rye; nor does it cost much. These tendencies will have an undesirable effect on expected revenues. Another danger is that Mr. John W. Public may in his first enthusiasm become so inebriated as to give strength to a counter attack by the unseated and disgruntled drys. It will be well for the public to avoid patronage of bootleggers, home manufacture and over indulgence. In the meantime, "Nunc est bibendum."

The Conclave

THE welfare of the Fraternity is too vital a matter to permit the business sessions of a conclave to be a mere adjunct to the social program. Legislation passed at the conclave governs the Fraternity until repealed. Budgetary expenses authorized by the conclave must be met and any such expenses proposed must be within reason and for the greater good of the Fraternity. At the conclave is not the place to formulate policies. Rather it is the place to decide upon policies already formulated. Delegates should come already prepared and the Chapter meetings before the conclave is the place of preparation. Parliamentary procedures should be used as lubrication for the legislative machine rather than as sabotage. There are many weighty problems to be deliberated upon at the coming conclave and the time will be short. Come prepared and we shall be better able to enjoy the splendid social program being prepared for us by the "Bull City" without neglecting the real purpose of the gathering. *On to Durham.*

Modern Heathen

WE view with horror, and unrelenting condemnation, the brutal and outrageous persecutions which the Romans inflicted upon the followers of Christ in days gone by. Our sympathy goes out to the German Jew because of his inhumane treatment by the strong arm of Nazi government. We are today making precedent by repealing for the first time in our history a constitutional amendment, because that amendment was the occasion of greater lawlessness. Yet, in the face of these sane trends, we find "the powers that be" in a dilemma when we ask security for black men and women. Lynching orgies will flourish so long, and only so long, as nothing is done about them. Negroes are loyal and extremely patient, but woe to any



DURHAM IS PREPARING

By GEORGE W. COX

EVERY brother, attached and detached, is urged to fulfill his financial obligations with the Grand Chapter before December 1, 1933. The General Committee, of the twenty-first annual Conclave to be held in Durham, North Carolina, December 27, 28, and 29, has been instructed to request financial cards of brothers for participation in the social events at the Conclave. Quite an embarrassment can be spared the General Committee if the brothers will respond a hundred per cent. to the request that they meet their financial obligations at once.

After you will have meandered your way to Durham and partaken of the many wonderful things which are being prepared for you, you will go away saying that your becoming financial with the Grand Chapter was one of the best investments you have ever made. The 1932 Conclave at Richmond, Virginia, took cognizance of the severe economic conditions which brothers throughout the country were experiencing and went on record as reducing salaries and all other expenses of the Grand Chapter fifty per cent. The Richmond Conclave then passed on to brothers of Omega the benefits of its action by reducing the Grand Chapter dues fifty per cent. or to \$2.50 a year. Every true son of Omega should show his approval and appreciation of the economy program adopted at the Richmond Conclave and should immediately fulfill his financial obligations with the Grand Chapter.

Each brother residing within the geographical boundaries of an established chapter is urged to pay his grand Chapter dues through that chapter. Brothers residing in localities where they cannot conveniently affiliate with a local chapter, are urged to forward their Grand Chapter dues to the Grand Keeper of Records and Seal, Brother A. C. Weiseger, Box 3171, Washington, D. C.

Durham, famed throughout the United States for the stability and integrity of its business institutions and for the unexcelled hospitality of its residents, is prepared to welcome delegates and visitors to the twenty-first annual Conclave on December 27, 28, and 29. Not only are Omega brothers exerting every effort to perfect arrangements, but members of all Greek letter fraternal groups of Durham and Raleigh are cooperating to make the Conclave memorable. Beginning with a smoker on the evening of December 26 in the spacious auditorium of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company's home office building and ending with a spectacular gala open formal dance in the magnificent Civic Auditorium in Raleigh, North Carolina's capital city located twenty-six miles from Durham, the Conclave will undoubtedly pass into Omega history attesting to the true Omega Psi Phi principles of Beta Phi chapter brothers as the cream of Dixie's hosts.

While assuring every delegate, brother, and visitor a social calendar which will be the criterion of perfection, members of Beta Phi have not overlooked the many varied problems which confront their nation, race, and fraternity as the world seeks a path toward universal prosperity and peace. Omega brothers will be afforded every advantage for discussions on matters of vital importance pertaining to our illustrious Greek letter organization, our nation, and to our race. Fortunately Beta Phi can boast of a roster carrying the names of some of America's foremost young business executives who will take counsel with those who will come from afar in the interest of our organization. No better place than Durham could be found for such counselling.

Behind every activity for the Conclave stand the following: Brother John D. Lewis, chapter basileus and manager of the Raleigh branch of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, who is chairman of the Publicity and Transportation Committee. Brother Lewis is arranging for three special Pullman cars, one to be routed from New York City, one from Memphis or Atlanta, and another from Chicago or Cincinnati for the convenience of the delegates and visiting brothers. Brother W. D. Hill, Assistant Secretary and Auditor of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, Chairman of the Committee on Social Events; and Brother R. N. Harris, Assistant Secretary of the Bankers Fire Insurance Company, Chairman of the Reception and Entertainment Committee. The success of the 1933 Durham Convention of the National Negro Business League was largely attributed to the arrangements of Brother Harris, who was chairman of the General Citizens Committee. Of course, Beta Phi has the exceptional opportunity of having the full cooperation and counsel of Grand Basileus Lawrence A. Oxley, Director of Negro Welfare for the state of North Carolina.

Serving on the General Conclave Committee are—Brother R. L. McDougald, Active Vice-President and Cashier of The Mechanics and Farmers Bank, Vice-President of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, and Treasurer of the Mutual Building and Loan Association; Brother John H. Wheeler, youthful Assistant Cashier of The Mechanics and Farmers Bank; Brother Asa T. Spaulding, Actuary of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company; Brother H. M. Michaux, Secretary-Manager of the Union Insurance and Realty Company; Brother Nelson H. Harris, Professor of Education of Shaw University; Brother F. P. Payne, Dean of Shaw University; Brother J. W. Goodloe, Chief Clerk of the Ordinary Department of the North Carolina Mutual

Life Insurance Company; Brother W. T. Armstrong, Athletic Director of Shaw University; Brother John Allen Fouché, Business Manager and Columnist of the Carolina Times; Brother J. W. Jones of the Underwriting Department of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company; and Brother S. C. "Chick" Coleman, Journalist and partner of the Coleman-Alston Publicity and Promotion Company.

In addition to the unique arrangements being concluded by brothers of Beta Phi, members of the seven Omega Psi Phi chapters located in various sections of the Tar Heel State are pledging their loyalty and cooperation toward the establishment of an all-time conclave record. Brothers, come to Durham and behold the wonders of Omega!

DURHAM—YOUR TOWN AND MINE

By JOHN A. FOUCHEE

DURHAM—City of Paradoxes—To the newcomer a dirty unprepossessing little city, with crooked streets and unimposing buildings—But to the business world, one of the most important industrial centers. Home of "Chesterfield," "Bull Durham" and other world famous tobacco brands—To Black America, the "Negro Wall Street"—Home of the most important racial enterprises—Paradoxical—for its cosmopolitanism on the one hand and its extreme narrowness on the other—where by virtue of its race enterprises men and women from all over the country work and rub shoulders with each other—City of religion—and city of sin—where petty bickerings crop up, only to be submerged by the larger and broader visions of service.—On one street imposing homes and happy children—around the corner squalid huts and unbelievable misery—poverty and his twin brother, crime, roam these side streets arm in arm—Durham, withal a shining city—"Your town and mine!"

WE'RE TELLING YOU—

That plans are being perfected to make the OMEGA Conclave in Durham the most successful in the entire history of the Fraternity. Everybody knows of Durham, and the latch strings are out for men of OMEGA PSI PHI, the good "QC's" from all sections of the state are vying with each other to make this meet go down in history.

THE SOCIAL AFFAIRS:—

Invitations and requests are pouring in to the office of the Grand Marshall, G. W. Cox, requesting dates for various organizations in order that they might entertain visiting brothers and friends, during the Conclave. We've only three days, however, so we're cramming as many in as possible. There'll be any number of "At Homes" and private pow-wows where the Omega oil will flow freely and joy will be unconfined.

WHO'LL BE HERE—

Brother Yates, first Negro sub-master of the Boston Public School system is heading a special delegation of Bean eaters who have never been "south before." Brother Yates is district representative.

Brother Henry "Hank" Corrothers of Wilberforce, coach of the Buckeye institution who with Harry Graves, head coach, seldom misses a Conclave; Big "Red" Steward of Kentucky, past Vice-Grand Basileus; Dr. "Rusty" Rice of Louisville, peerless imbibor of Omega oil; Lawrence Calvin Purdy of Chicago's "Gold Coast"; Jack Atkins of Houston, past Grand Basileus; Harold Martin of Washington; Attorney Matthew Bullock of Boston, past Grand Basileus and former president of the Pan-Hellenic Council; Brothers B. G. Olive, Jr., and Geo. W. Lee of Memphis; "Snake" Reid of New York with his side kick Skeeter "wotta man" Gorham; Ted Blackmon of New York City;

Dr. Daniel "Snooky" Taylor of Philadelphia; Dr. Bill Felder of Charleston; Brother Baskerville of Philadelphia; Brother Koger of Baltimore; side kick of the lamented Walter Mazyck; Brother Blayton, C. P. A. of Atlanta and Grand Keeper of Finance; Past Grand Basileus Julius McClain of Philadelphia; Brother Malcolm Dodson, Editor of the ORACLE, of Brooklyn; Ira De A. Reid of the National Urban League; Brother Baugh, Vice-Grand Basileus of Indianapolis; Brother Rev. Randolph Johnson of Norfolk and Richmond, Grand Marshall of last year, who was in the office of your scribe in October and says that a number of the Norfolk brothers will be in attendance; Brother Bill Hastie, famous in this section for his masterly handling of the nationally known "Hocutt Case." Hundreds of other brothers imbued with the good old Omega spirit will also be in attendance, but time and space will not permit us to mention them at this writing.

CALL UPON:—

Brothers Baumgardner of Columbia, S. C.; Harold Thomas, Atlanta; Dr. Boyd, Tuskegee; Dr. Henry, Philadelphia, Al. Scott, Herb Marshall, Jimmy Cobb, all of Washington; Harold Bledsoe and "Freck" Dent of Detroit; Dr. Cade of Chicago, Al. Dent of New Orleans and others to head Dixie way for the Conclave.

"UNOFFICIAL" DELEGATES—

Kappa Alpha Psi is to be represented in Durham during the Conclave; "Bob" Landrum of Chicago, Wendell Phillips High "Prof" and Chicago's worse golfer, is visiting these heah parts, as is Ovid Harris, consulting accountant of Chicago, Lawyer "Joe" Burch of Washington and points west. These three good Kappa men have advised your scribe that they would be in the Bull city during the sessions of the Mighty Omegas.

THE LADIES

Durham and North Carolina boasts an array of pulchritudinous femininity such as is found in few other cities and states. The feminine problem, is no problem. There'll be plenty of the "gentler" sex present.

FINIS—

We've told you in a rambling sort of a way about Durham and we've let Omega men know in a very informal sort of a fashion some of the things that might be expected. There is plenty yet untold. Omega men who have "made" several Conclaves in the past will miss the smiling countenance and the firm handclasp of Brother Walter H. Mazyck, author, lawyer, soldier and good Omega man, to whom Omega men bowed low; we have only to say that he was an understanding comrade, who bowed on the journey to the will of the Inevitable—and that now he is the fleece of a cloud—on a faraway star.

PROGRAM

BUSINESS SESSIONS

Tuesday, December 26

6:00 P. M.—Dinner meeting Supreme Council, Private Dining Room, Biltmore Hotel.

Wednesday, December 27

9:30 A. M.—Registration of delegates
Presentation of credentials. Delegates will Basileus or Keeper of Records and Seals of their chapters.

10:30 A. M.—Call for Quorum—Roll Call
Formal opening of Conclave
Welcome on behalf of BETA PHI CHAPTER—Response, Vice-Grand Basileus, Wm. E. Baugh
Appointment of Committees
Report of Supreme Council

1:00 P. M.—RECESS

2:30 P. M.—Report of Supreme Council (Concluded)
Report of Delegates to the Pan-Hellenic Council

5:00 P. M.—ADJOURNMENT

Thursday, December 28

10:00 A. M.—Roll Call
Report of District and Travelling Representatives.
Report of Director of Achievement Project.
Report of Chapters. All reports of chapters must be typewritten in duplicate. Delegates will be confined to their written reports. All financial reports of chapters will be presented on the proper forms in quadruplicate showing in each case the name and address of the member who pays.

1:00 P. M.—RECESS

2:30 P. M.—Roll Call

2:45 P. M.—Memorial Service to the Late Brother Walter H. Mazyck.
Formal presentation of Resolutions
Speakers:—Brother Linwood G. Koger
Brother Harold H. Thomas
Brother M. Hugh Thompson

3:15 P. M.—Report of Special Committee on Revision of Constitution and By-Laws and Ritual.

5:00 P. M.—ADJOURNMENT

11:00 A. M.—Roll Call.
Report of Committees concluded.
Introduction of Distinguished Visitors and Guests.

1:00 P. M.—RECESS

2:30 P. M.—Roll Call.
Selection of place of next meeting.
Discharge of Committees.
Election of Officers.

5:00 P. M.—ADJOURNMENT
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

10:00 A. M.—Breakfast Meeting Supreme Council.

BETA PHI CHAPTER

ROSTER

W. T. Armstrong, Shaw University, Raleigh, North Carolina.
Dr. D. O. Barnes, St. Agnes Hospital, Raleigh, North Carolina.
Chic Coleman, 1005 Fayetteville Street, Durham, North Carolina.
G. W. Cox, Box 525, Durham, North Carolina.
J. A. Fouché, 1005 Fayetteville Street, Durham, North Carolina.
J. W. Goodloe, Box 525, Durham, North Carolina.
M. A. Goins, Box 525, Durham, North Carolina.
N. H. Harris, Shaw University, Raleigh, North Carolina.
R. N. Harris, Box 824, Durham, North Carolina.
Rev. J. W. Heritage, Fayetteville, North Carolina.
W. D. Hill, Box 525, Durham, North Carolina.
J. W. Jones, Box 525, Durham, North Carolina.
W. A. Kenny, Box 525, Durham, North Carolina.
J. D. Lewis, Box 437, Raleigh, North Carolina.
F. L. McCoy, Box 831, Durham, North Carolina.
R. L. McDougald, Box 831, Durham, North Carolina.
Dr. W. C. Melchor, 201 Moore Street, Fayetteville, North Carolina.
H. M. Michaux, Box 361, Durham, North Carolina.
L. A. Oxley, Box 57, Raleigh, North Carolina.
C. M. Palmer, Box 525, Durham, North Carolina.
F. P. Payne, Shaw University, Raleigh, North Carolina.
J. C. Scarborough, Sr., Box 310, Durham, North Carolina.
J. C. Scarborough, Jr., Box 310, Durham, North Carolina.
Dr. G. C. Shaw, Oxford, North Carolina.
I. H. Smith, Box 96, New Bern, North Carolina.
A. T. Spaulding, Box 525, Durham, North Carolina.
J. H. Blackburn, Fayetteville, North Carolina.
M. H. Thompson, 106½ Parrish Street, Durham, North Carolina.
J. H. Wheeler, Box 831, Durham, North Carolina.
L. W. Wilhoite, Box 824, Durham, North Carolina.
C. L. Williams, 609 South East Street, Raleigh, North Carolina.
H. A. Black, Fayetteville, North Carolina.



ANNOUNCEMENT—BETA PHI CHAPTER—CONCLAVE HOST
FROM
RECEPTION AND ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

I know by the time you read this statement you will have had an opportunity to look over a few of the profiles of some of the brothers of Beta Phi as well as to read the article over the signature of Grand Marshall G. W. Cox. I am taking this means of announcing to all brothers in attendance at the coming Conclave that the Reception and Entertainment Committee has arranged for board and lodging at the rate of \$2 a day (two meals a day).

If there are brothers, other than delegates, who are planning to attend the Conclave, we would appreciate your serving notice on our committee. I would also appreciate receiving definite information as to whether any of the delegates or visiting brothers will bring their wives with them or if other lady guests are to be in attendance so that necessary arrangements may be completed.

I wish to impress upon each chapter the importance of sending in, as early as possible, the names of the delegates who will represent their chapter. This will greatly assist the committee in making all necessary arrangements in advance in order that the whole program of the Conclave will move off smoothly.

The home of the Conclave will be at 809 Fayetteville Street, Royal Knights of King David Building. (Mail address: P. O. Box 824.) All delegates are asked to report there for registration upon arriving in the city to get assignments to their stopping places and other information.

Any questions in regard to the instructions given above will please be addressed to: R. N. Harris, Chairman—Reception and Entertainment Committee, Bankers Fire Insurance Company, Durham, North Carolina.



ANNOUNCEMENT—BETA PHI CHAPTER—CONCLAVE HOST FROM PUBLICITY AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

DECEMBER is just over the hill and from all indications Beta Phi is getting ready for a record-breaking entertainment of all brothers who will attend the twenty-first annual Conclave in Durham, North Carolina. Take it from me, no one can afford to miss it because it is going to be all it is promised to be and more. There will be plenty of "spirits"—Omega spirit; spirits of ammonia; spirits of camphor; spirits of nitre; a little paregoric; and just "plain spirits." So, do not fail to get a peep-in on Durham during Christmas Week.

"We are making splendid contacts with the various railroad companies of the country and from all indications, we shall be able to work out acceptable rates to Durham during the Conclave. As soon as we have completed our plans, every chapter will be notified as to our success in securing such rates."

As a committee, we are extremely anxious to do what we can to arrange Pullman accommodations from the Middle West, South, and East. Therefore, we are asking that each chapter in these respective sections will cooperate with us by letting us know the names and number of delegates and visiting brothers just as soon as possible and if those brothers will be interested in securing Pullman accommodations. If you will do this, we will be in position to definitely say to the railroad companies how many such reservations we will need and thereby make arrangements for Omega Pullman cars for transportation to and from the Conclave.

Please address all communications with reference to these matters to:

J. D. Lewis, Chairman—Publicity and Transportation Committee, Box 437, Raleigh, North Carolina.



TAU PSI, UNDERGRADUATE CHAPTER AT NORTH CAROLINA COLLEGE FOR NEGROES, INVITES THE UNDERGRADUATE BROTHERS TO COME TO THE "BULL CITY" TO THE TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL CONCLAVE OF OMEGA PSI PHI.

TAU PSI, undergraduate chapter at the North Carolina College for Negroes, is looking forward with happy anticipation to the coming of all undergraduate brothers, who are preparing to find their way to the twenty-first annual Conclave of Omega Psi Phi at Durham, North Carolina.

We are giving you some inside information when we broadcast that our big brothers of Beta Phi are busy working on colossal plans leading up to the entertainment of the greatest conclave in the glorious history of Greek letter organizations. There will be dances galore and no end to the beautiful damsels—according to the reports at our command. In fact, you cannot afford to miss having a little association with some of the damsels who make up

the local chapters of the Delta Sigma Theta, Alpha Kappa Alpha, and Zeta Phi Beta sororities.

On the receiving line at North Carolina College will be found Brother Tyler Davis, student manager and Keeper of Records and Seal of Tau Psi as well as an outstanding personality in all other campus activities; Brother Hubert Coleman, Keeper of Finance; Brother "Doc" Dickerson, giant veteran football linesman; Brother Horace Thompson; Brother Joseph Read; and Brother Archibio Artis. All that Tau Psi has will be at the disposal of all undergraduate brothers who will be in attendance at the Conclave. So, we will be expecting you. Do not forget to bring the old "tux" and the extra shirt and set out for the swellest conclave in the annals of Omega Psi Phi. "Non mirabile dictu, sed plus mirabile factu." Don't take our word brothers. Come and see it done.

THOMAS LACY, Basileus.



(Continued from page 7)

The George Washington Bicentennial Celebration gave impetus to his research into the life of George Washington, the Father of his Country. After an unsuccessful effort to capture the interest of the National George Washington Bicentennial Commission in publishing a book in its series that would show the relation of our First President to the large Negro group in this country, Brother Mazyck decided to publish his research in book form through the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. This Book, "George Washington and the Negro," received high praise in literary circles and was offered as an alternate book by the Book-of-the-Month Club.

At the time of his death, Brother Mazyck had in manuscript form a life of Colonel Charles Young about two-thirds completed. Another three weeks would have seen this book ready for the press. It is still possible that it may be published.

The real tragedy in Brother Mazyck's death so far as his literary career is concerned rests in his incomplete work which was to have borne the title "Abraham Lincoln and the Negro." Voluminous research had already been completed, some preliminary pages written but five more years work had been planned before this volume or these volumes were to have been presented to the public. In this work Brother Mazyck had set for himself the task of painting a picture showing the effect of the Negro's presence in this country on the history of the United States.

Brother Walter Mazyck was best known and loved by many of us through his position as Grand Keeper of Records and Seals of our Fraternity. Just how much he has meant to the Fraternity as he has served in this capacity may soon be realized. He has kept not only our records but our ideals as well. Through his vision Omega Psi Phi has had life. Year after year as Grand Officers have been changed, a feeling of security has remained with us primarily because of our faith in him. In times of stress, even in the face of bank crashes, his guiding hand has steadied us. Never an idle dreamer but a materialist with vision, Brother Mazyck has inspired our confidence and we have followed with assurance where he has indicated the proper pathways led.

Even as we sense our great loss, our hearts go out to Brother Mazyck's widow, a truly noble character, who has suffered the severest blow of all. Broken-hearted she took his body back to the home of his childhood and laid him to rest with his family. There is an Omega shrine in the Southland which true Omega men will never forget.

OUR DURHAM



CHARLES H. A. MCPHERSON



J. D. LEWIS



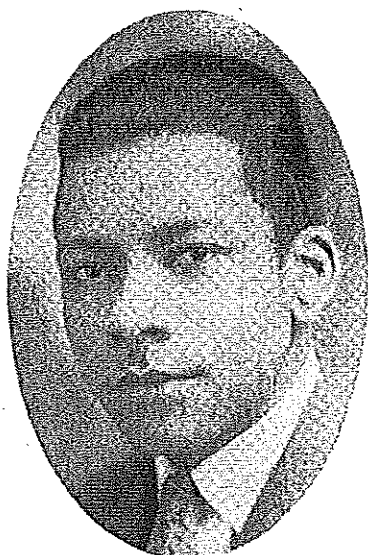
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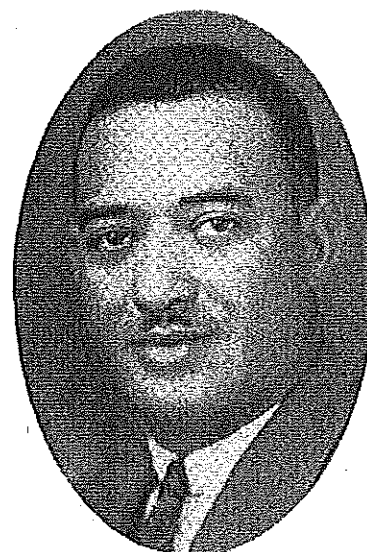
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J. W. JONES



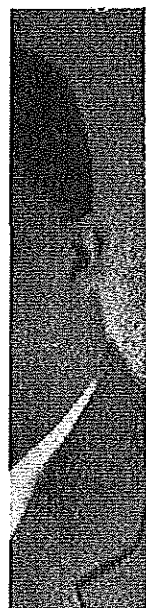
W. D. HILL



CHICK COLEMAN



R. N. HARRIS



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ECONOMIC RECONSTRUCTION FOR THE NEGRO

By WILLIAM OCCOMY

NEGROES, like others have been seriously disturbed by the recent economic and industrial catastrophes. Business activity is at the lowest point in some lines of endeavor recorded in the last half century. Eggs, just a week ago, were the lowest in price that they have been for a period in fifty years, while wheat, last summer, reached a level of forty-three cents a bushel which is the lowest point recorded in the last seventy-one years. One could go through a list of the prices of steel, coal, silk, coffee, cocoa, cement, copper, iron and find that the prices had made extraordinary and unusual records in the race for decline.

Various interpretations have been placed on this dismal economic phenomenon by several leaders in various fields of social activity. One eminent racial clergyman stated that it was due to the fact that the vast multitudes "had turned their backs on God."

When riding on a crowded car one evening, and on sitting beside a coal shoveller, the writer listened to him say, "De rich peoples is taking everythings and leaving us poor little guys with nothing. Dat is de whole trouble. De rich guys is robbing us poor fellers." Scholastic economists with their fine spun theories declare that it is due to the unbalancing of the various economic relationships and factors existing between different groups of producers. The farmers have to pay more "real wages" for the products of industry, than they receive for their products. By that is meant that the industrialist in the city gets twice as much for his output of products as the farmer does for his output. Thus, argue the economic scholastics, since this exists, there can be no true balancing of the industrial with the agricultural factors, and hence there comes a strange and benighted blockade stifling the channels of trade.

In the course of the multifarious discussions surrounding the decline there evolve two schools of thought; the objectionists, who claim that the causes lie outside of man's control and power, and the subjectionists, who assert that economic gains or losses are wholly within the control of man. It would carry us too far adrift in this presentation to delve into the theories underlying these two groups. Suffice it to state that the Negro, if he is to work himself out of the present dilemma, though, must learn, study and accept the underlying philosophy of the economic subjectionists who claim that prosperity and depression are within the control of man. He merely has to use and apply his infinite and inherent powers to lift himself from any state of social, physical, economic or mental depression.

And so the first principle underlying any reconstruction program of the Negro would assert that:

1. Reconstruction must come from within rather than from without? There must be a reappraisal and a revaluation made of the mental and physical powers of the individual before he is prepared to take an active part in the reconstructive and regenerative program of racial development. Who am I? Why am I here; What powers have I? Why have those powers been given to me? Am I daily developing and using my powers? If so in what manner or manners am I employing my powers? What are my mental resources? How did I acquire these mental resources? How do I know that these are my mental assets or liabilities? What place should I fill in the social and economic life of the community? Why should I occupy such a position? Am I prepared to occupy such a position? Am I prepared to occupy such a post? What other posts are available and why should I select this one rather than others?

Thus, we could go on asking question after question for the purpose of examining the self, and making fairly accurate reappraisal. This is a sad commentary on our schools, that the students study multitudinous other subjects except one of the most important which is the individual self, the John, the Mary, the Harold, the Joseph. A business man is considered a rather careless individual if he does not know the amount and value of his assets and liabilities. Yet on the average if one were to ask, ninety-nine out of every one hundred individuals, their assets or liabilities, they would not be able to inform you of them.

As a result our society is a disorganized and haphazard affair. Hours and years of precious human labor and life are wasted; poverty exists where there should be riches, and despair reigns when there should be peace.

The first principle then underlying any reconstructive program for our group is that of a reexamination and revaluation of the self from both the subjective and objective angles. A whole can be no greater than the sum of its part, holds just as true in racial development as in geometrical hypothesis.

2. The Economic Reconstructive Program would contain a plan for the foundation and the operation of an industrial or business planning commission for the Negro. This commission would be national in scope, wide in activity, and broad in its program. At the head of the commission would be an executive who had wide knowledge and experience in the fields of business, education, and social endeavors. He would have associated with

him several associates each of whom would be head of a particular division. Although, this plan has been formulated in greater detail, yet, only a summary can be given at this time, since there are some other vital matters to be presented.

Statistical and budgetary information would be collected, tabulated and disseminated by the associate director having this duty to perform. He would not only have in charge the compiling of the budget for the commission, but he would of necessity compile an economic budget for the Negro, giving in detail the financial plans of the many concerns affiliated with the commission and what the Negro as an industrial factor expected to do in the next year or five years in a business way. His functions would be to serve as an historian to tell what has been done and as a prophet to tell what is expected to be done.

And then there is the educational director who would have under his supervision programs for the remodeling and refashioning of the educational curricula along lines which will make them more practicable and serviceable to the student. Further mention will be made of this point.

There would, too, be an associate director of employment who like the salesmanager of any manufacturing plant, would always be looking for new markets for his product. Vocational and psychological analyses, surveys and investigations and the maintenance of adequate and extensive records would have to be part of the daily performances of this associate. His main function, though, would be to "turnover" his sales, open up new avenues, markets, and places of employment.

In addition to this director there would be the associate director of banking and insurance. He would initiate plans and ideas which would ultimately serve in making the Negro banks and insurance companies better and stronger organizations. He would keep a detailed record of their activities and at times urge the consolidation of some of the banks, or the organization of another bank, or the creation of a fund among several banks to be used in cases of emergency. Likewise would he promulgate ideas pertaining to the operation and management of Negro Life Insurance. Such problems as a Negro mortality table, agents, contracts, agents compensation, policyholders' rights, consolidations, liquidations and receiverships would come within his range of jurisdiction. He would not serve as a dictator or "big boss" but merely as an advisor to suggest to, and cooperate with others in making the banking and insurance concerns better and larger undertakings.

But in addition to this, there would be the associate director of manufacturing and transportation. The problem surrounding the transportation element is one more of an employment nature, rather than one of organizing and operating railroads, electric lines, bus systems or ocean liners. A serious problem awaits this associate director and that is one of opening up the avenues of employment to Negroes on the street cars, consolidated lines, busses and more railroads. Too long has the Negro let this difficulty of obtaining employment in these lines of activity, pass silently by. What means or measures will be employed by this associate director are now being prepared in a more lengthy document.

But there is the Negro manufacturing problem which this associate director would have to handle. When a colored man or a group of colored men desired to promote and organize a manufacturing enterprise, they would call

upon this associate as they would utilize the services of any other expert. He would take up with them and help them to decide upon such problems as involve the labor supply and conditions, transportation facilities, sanitary provisions in and around the plant, topographical features of the surrounding territory, the source of the supply of raw materials, and the terms of lease or purchase. Various problems regarding the type of building, the heat supply, the lighting system, the supply of industrial power, the nature and capacity of the equipment and the plant layout would have to be decided upon. Obviously, to be qualified to hold such a post, this associate director would have to be familiar with the principles underlying industrial engineering, financing and management, beside having an exhaustive fund of knowledge pertaining to the transportation problems.

Next, as part of the planning commission, would be the associate director of marketing and retailing. His activity would be within the range of merchandising. This director would aim to organize all Negro retailers in certain cooperative groups so that they could buy in larger quantities. The merchandising director would, too, work in conjunction with the manufacturing director to coordinate the output of the plants with their consumption in the channels of distribution. Although, there are other phases to be considered, yet, this brief survey will give the reader an idea about the work of this associate of the planning economic commission.

To operate the commission, funds would be necessary, and so there would be an associate director of finance, who would not only have in charge the raising and distribution of funds to operate the commission, but who would have as a foremost activity the raising of capital to promote worthy Negro enterprises. When a colored person or a group of colored men desired to promote a concern they would first make application to this commission. If it were an application for the promotion of an insurance company, it would first go to this associate director of banking and insurance. After he had made an investigation and rendered a favorable report, the matter of a loan, amount and terms would be decided upon by a committee consisting of the associate director of banking and insurance, the director-in-chief, and the associate director of finance.

Another associate director would have in charge all of the legal activities. Cases would be continually arising relating to labor contracts, corporation agreements, and other matters concerning the status of the commission to other public bodies, corporations and individuals. As other functions arise from time to time, it would probably be necessary to create other associate directorships such as public relations directors, foreign relations director, or scientific research director. Each associate director, too, would have a staff of the necessary assistants, clerks and other employees. To keep the organization set-up from becoming static and haphazard in form, a reorganization of functions and duties would be made once every five years.

This then gives a comprehensive view of the work of the planning commission in the economic rehabilitation of the Negro. If the Negro fails to organize his activities on a national and scientific basis, he will be forever in the slough of industrial stagnation and commercial despondency. Then the second principle underlying the reconstructive economic program for colored America is

the formation and operation of an industrial and business planning commission.

3. Although the industrial planning commission will serve as one of the basic agencies for the rehabilitation of the Negro, yet, it is necessary that a drastic reorganization be made in the methods, scope and purposes of our educational institutions. As before intimated a complete and thorough revision of the educational agencies needs to be made in readjusting this racial entity to an entirely new set of circumstances, conditions and perplexities. Some of the important changes are listed below.

(a) It will be necessary to highly develop the Junior College program. It has been estimated that if a proper grouping is made of the courses given in the four-year liberal arts school, that the fundamentals learned in the four years can be compressed in two years. That which could not be compressed would be eliminated, and the student would largely restrict himself to those studies which would serve as a basis for the study of a professional course. On completion of two years in the Junior College, concentrating on the fundamental subjects of a professional course, the student would enter on his professional study program.

(b) The reorganization of the educational facilities would, too, mean a change in the nature of the study of medicine and law. The medical course now would be extended to five years, and during that extra year highly concentrated studies would be made in the pure sciences, economics, sociology, and medical jurisprudence. Medical men of the future would thus be assured of having a broader scientific background, and possessing a more comprehensive knowledge of the economic and social forces.

(c) But the legal education, too, requires innovation. On finishing the junior college with a background of history, literature, philosophy, physical science, mathematics, jurisprudence, social science, the student would enter upon his legal training, which would be extended to four years. The extra year would be devoted to a study of accounting, advanced problems in business administration and the social interpretation and application of legal principles. Thus, the future lawyer would be a more versatile creature and be able to apply and interpret the law in terms which would be of the greatest benefit to the community. We now know that legal education has been too narrow and faulty with the result that the law as administered today in America is sub-standard and held in ill repute. Only a radical change in the method, scope and procedure of legal training will improve the status of the lawyer in the community.

(d) In addition to this, though, the reconstruction program would have as one of its aims the introduction of more comprehensive and intensive training in business administration. Education largely determines the trend of the race. If vast sums are expended on equipping and maintaining medical and legal colleges, then great majorities of our students will turn their faces toward these fields of endeavor. On the other hand, if funds are spent on business administration training, then our students will study those courses with the result that more will enter this field.

On coming into intimate contact with many colored business men, the writer finds that they generally have a faulty knowledge of the principles underlying marketing, financing and management. He could cite many promo-

tions which failed largely because the proper promotional plans were not established and executed. He could cite other cases where the promoters, not understanding the nature of reserves and their purposes, used all of the profits for their own material advancement. Other instances could be cited wherein the promotion was sound, but the management faulty, with the result that the concern made little or no progress. Many of these errors and losses can be prevented if the future business man is given rigorous and exhaustive training in the principles underlying promotion, financing, and management.

(e) Considerable improvement can be made in the methods employed in technical and industrial education. Our educators complain, stating that there is little or no opportunity for the colored youth to employ his technical training. To overcome this defect then, this reconstructive program must make provision for the promotion and operation of manufacturing enterprises and projects. Applications for positions would be filed with the Associate Director of Employment and then transferred to the Associate Director of Manufacturing and Transportation. The technical training would stress to a greater degree the thorough study of physics, chemistry, mathematics, some phase of engineering, inventive science, industrial planning, and managing, and patent law. With that as a background, the student would be prepared to serve a brief apprenticeship in one of the manufacturing plants designated by the associate director of manufacturing and transportation.

Of course there are other phases regarding education which should be considered, namely a more practical and economic training for the minister, social worker, and the housewife. These phases will be covered in another document.

The reorganization then of the educational facilities, methods, curricula is necessary if the Negro is to adequately adapt himself to the new conditions brought on by the economic revolution which radically disturbed the equilibrium existing between the industrial classes.

4. The Economic Reconstructive Program will include as one of its outstanding articles, the reorganization of methods of promoting, operating and managing our enterprises.

(a) Promotion. Some of the phases have previously been considered in another section of this article. However, it can be asserted that two outstanding faults of our promotional schemes are those concerning the duplication of other enterprises and services, the lack of a plan of procedure, and an absence of the necessary finance to properly operate the establishment.

On the whole, it may be safely claimed that the Negro is short-sighted enough to believe that if he enters a business in which another of his group has succeeded, he, too, will succeed. Owing to a lack of logical insight, he establishes the false syllogism that:

"A being a Negro has succeeded in operating a barber shop,
I am a Negro

Therefore I can succeed in operating a barber shop."

Having this fallacious argument as a basis, he opens the shop, although, there may be two or three established which can hardly make a livelihood. On the other hand if he turned the syllogism around so that he would at times venture into new fields of endeavor, he would have greater chances for success. Recently the writer has come

into contact with an inventor who established the following major and minor premises and is now working out his plan.

"Since no Negroes have entered manufacturing on a large scale, there exist many opportunities for them.

I am a Negro

Therefore opportunities are there for me."

In this period of reconstruction, then, the colored people should and must be daring and enterprising enough to promote other undertakings of a larger financial, manufacturing and mercantile nature.

(b) **Planning.** But after the Negro has conceived the promotional idea he often lacks a definite plan of procedure. He works from hour to hour and attends to matters as they arise with the result that weeks pass, months pass, and even years go by, and the enterprise is where it was when it started. Although, most written plans are not exact, yet, the majority of executives claim that it is far better to have a written plan and try to follow it, rather than not to have any. How many sales will be made during the next month or year or even five years? What will the expenses amount to? What net profit will be obtained during the course of the next three months? What will be my rate of expansion? How will the financing be done? What is my plan of work for the next week, month, year or five years? If one were to ask the average Negro promoter these questions, he would declare in most instances that the examiner was foolish to expect answers to events which would happen in the remote future.

Russia has demonstrated in a large and admirable manner what can be done if a plan is made and followed religiously. Although the results from the five-year plan were not realized, yet, without it Russia would have been a land of chaos and revolution. And what Russia has done, the Negro should do. What that country accomplished by planning, every Negro enterpriser should attempt to accomplish in some degree. So during this reconstructive economic period, the Negro business man needs to formulate a daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly program and follow it as far as it is practicable.

(c) **Finance.** Finance is to an enterprise what gasoline is to the motor—it supplies that fuel which enables it to run. Deprive the motor of gasoline and the motor ceases running; likewise deprive the enterprise of finance and it will cease to run. Unfortunately many do not realize this vital point, and try to operate with a deficiency of capital. This means grief and disaster.

On the other hand, the gasoline motor can be flooded with too much fuel. So can the morale of an organization be destroyed by having practiced wasteful, unequitable and unfair policies. One concern paid the executives enormous salaries, but starved the clerks and others in the lower employee strata. Several disclosures have recently been made indicating that wasteful, uneconomical and unequitable policies had been followed regarding the construction of a contented and able employee group and the conservation of the financial resources of the concerns.

(d) **Operation and Management.** Although, many of the operating and managerial factors have been discussed yet, there remain several more. Two of the most important concern the balancing of the budget and the managing of the office and sales forces.

Some enterprises have experimented with the budget

and after many failures now consider it as a necessary element in the control of their companies. The budget serves largely as a financial forecast and indicator. Unforeseen elements will occur which will tend to upset the budget, yet those establishments which have made the greatest progress during the last three years are those which invariably employed this means of control. More, and more must our business men learn to construct and utilize this novel means of controlling the finance of their businesses.

But more than controlling the finances, our executives must place greater emphasis on the morale and efficiency of the clerical and sales forces. Salesmen should be given more intensive training and a higher degree of supervision. Office employees should be encouraged to study and to learn more about office management, industrial planning and the fundamentals of the particular business in which they are employed. Too, the office employees should be urged to make suggestions which will aid in improving the operations of the company.

Negroes can hardly hope to make progress by adhering to decadent theories and practices. A new and vitalizing philosophy, teaching the enormous and infinite powers of the self should be broadcasted throughout America. There must be a general reappraisal and re-awakening of the members of this group so that they will have the necessary confidence and inspiration to formulate and operate a reconstructive economic program. This program should embody the formation and operation of a planning commission; the reorganization of the aims, methods and procedures of our educational institutions; and the inculcating of higher standards in the promotion, operation, and management of our business enterprises.

This morning on passing a school yard, the writer saw hundreds of colored boys and girls playing joyously and laughing merrily. He thought of the economic future of these tender ones. What will be their economic status and industrial outlook twenty-five years hence? Will they be hampered by a malicious and negative doctrine of self debasement, will they be more restricted by the iron chains of economic bondage, will they look upon Negro business enterprise as a miserable failure? What we do today largely determines what they will say, do and be, one quarter of a century hence. Our reconstruction program must reflect blazing rays twenty-five years down the road of time, so that they will illuminate the pathway of the on coming generations.

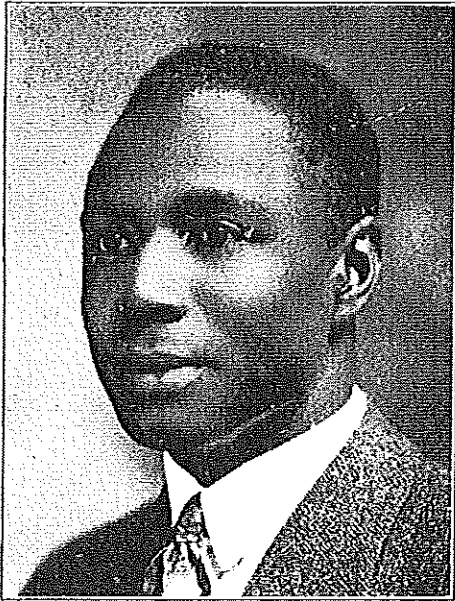
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(Continued from page 11)

agency or force that exhausts the patience of the oppressed. Unless the "powers that be" immediately stamp out this form of lawlessness it will lead to unnecessary bloodshed and consequences more formidable than mere civil uprising. Anti-lynching laws are sought, but if secured they will be debased as laws before them have been debased. No—the solution will not come from statutes. What is needed is outspoken public opinion by those of power and influence that such outrages must stop. As long as high officials make asses of themselves by attempting to hood-wink thinking men and women as to their sincerity when they allegedly probe these blood-feasts, lynchings will continue. If we condone heathenism, declare a state of CHAOS.

R. D. B.

IN DURHAM YOU'LL MEET



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Past Grand Basileus

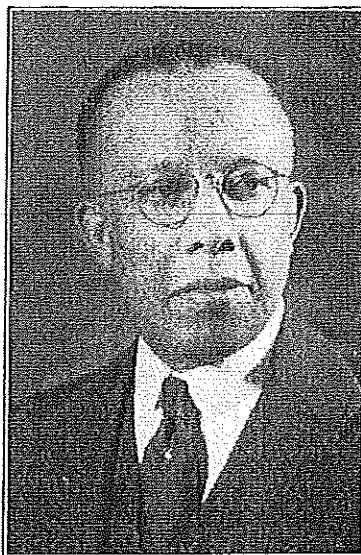


DANIEL B. TAYLOR
Past Grand Keeper of Finances



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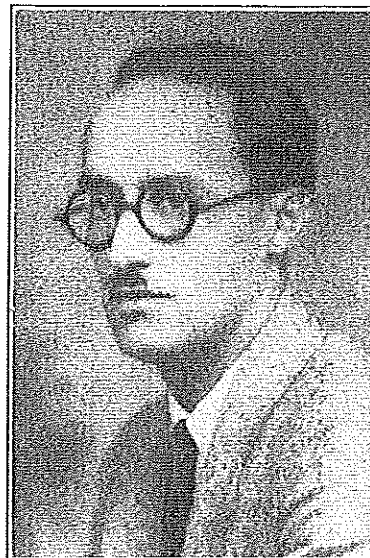
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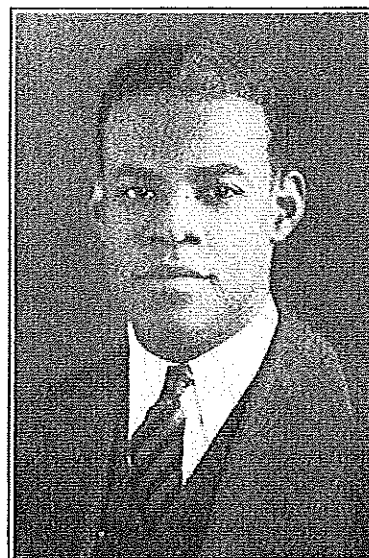
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LAUGHTER—THE BLACK MAN'S GIFT

By ARCHIBALD F. GLOVER

A BLISTERING sun shone down upon the field of sugar cane. Its strong light danced across the smooth stalk spikes as they rustled to and fro in the wind. From a nearby rise in the ground, as far as one could see, the serried rows of cane spread out like a vast untroubled ocean.

A negro boy emerged from among the stalks into the clearing which ran from the field to the edge of a moss covered patch of oaks. The hot brown soil crumpled under his horny feet with each ungainly step. As he paused for a momentary glance at the big white house in the far end of the clearing, his face broke into a broad, cheek splitting grin.

Nothing had occurred to evoke this mirthful offering. It simply played across his black countenance impulsively, vying with the sunlight to brighten the tranquil surroundings. Another's presence might have profaned the scene, but his happy smile completed the picture. It left room for nothing more.

The shadows of malarial fever and the hookworm vanished before the light of that smile. Forgotten were the tattered rags, and bad food. The white man's oppression lost its vital sting. It was a panacea for all his ills.

He turned towards the low, unpainted wooden shack set down beside the towering oaks. It was his home—not very attractive to gaze upon—but raised to the eminence of the big white house by the refreshing smile which he brought to it.

Let us, for the moment, reflect upon the negro scholar, learned in the arts and sciences, and theology. He has contributed notably to these fields in the short period since the Civil War, but it is not the purpose of this article to treat these contributions in detail. Our chief interest is a consideration of the effect which his conventional training has had upon his disposition.

Has it caused him to lose the spontaneous humor so evident in his unlettered brother? He is perhaps more formal and restrained in action, but this is merely a component of his training. Scrape away this veneer by friendly association, and we find the same wholesome sense of humor. It is more than the ability to laugh. It is a peculiar, gusty spirit of mirth which helps to drown the disappointments of frustration and prejudice.

Why have these two—the illiterate backwoods boy and the scholar—been chosen as examples of this tendency? The answer is because they are at the two extremes of mental development within the Race. In between these extremes we find the varying degrees of intelligence, education, and temperament, but throughout the entire racial fabric this peculiar sense of humor is woven. It is a fact readily observed by other racial groups, and cheerfully accepted by our own.

From the above observations it is reasonable to assume that this mirthful spirit has the proportions of a racial characteristic. As such, it is worthwhile to pause and examine it.

First, let us consider what constitutes laughter. Funk and Wagnall's unabridged dictionary defines it as, "An action, involuntary in its origin though modified by the will, provoked by what strikes the mind as humorously incongruous, but often by mere satisfaction or gaiety, etc., etc."

As is to be expected this authorative definition covers all the fundamental causes of laughter. It even goes on to describe in detail the physical properties of laughter. What it does not explain is that anomalous spontaneity of spirit and jollity so peculiar to the American Negro, an oppressed minority. Of course, such a detailed exposition does not fit the purpose of a dictionary.

There are numerous provocations to laughter. They run the gamut of human emotions. From the villainous hysterical laughter of the criminal, often provoked by temporary insanity, through the merriment induced by play, to the profane and unrestrained feasts on the barges of Caligula, all is laughter. There is also the ironical laughter occasioned by bitterness. This is an attempt to rationalize, and perhaps offers the nearest approach to the well-spring from which the Negro's happy spirit has developed.

The probable genesis of the American Negro's easily provoked smile lies in the limbo of slavery. There is a close kinship between laughter and tears as acts of rationalization. Both are "involuntary in origin," and both are alternately used for the same occasions by different



ARCHIBALD F. GLOVER

people.

The Negro in bondage found it safer to hide his tears and smile when pained most. Worked to exhaustion, and cowed by blows and insults, he still managed to present a grin to the master who would not court the slightest sign of rebellion. Always under the lash of that "Scaramouch," the overseer, he soon learned that tears were of no avail.

From this continuous effort to readily force a smile it was but a short step to integration of the habit as a fundamental part of his nature. And so, after manumission, the Negro still retained this characteristic to assist him in groping toward full manhood.

The native African progenitors of the American slave were not so inherently jolly. Granted, they did laugh upon occasion. There was ample time to gratify this tendency during their games and dances. But life at other times was a bit too stern for such indulgence. For the women, there was the care of children and back breaking work in the fields and homes. For the men there was the severe life of constant warring with neighboring tribes

and jungle beasts, and the dangerous quest for food. In this respect, their lives closely parallel the pattern of the American Indian, and other aborigines.

Then why does the blackamoor laugh so readily now? It is a resultant of his environment, a defense mechanism. At first, it served as an outlet for his suppressed emotions. He was the buffoon and clown hiding the tragedy of his existence behind a grinning face.

For this reason the Negro has never been seriously accepted in the affairs of the world. He has been barred from fields of endeavor requiring cold analytical work because of his supposed emotional constitution.

Still, this spirit of laughter has provided certain ad-

vantages. It has maintained in him a brighter, more hopeful attitude despite his miserable status. And it has made his relationship with those who are disposed to assist him more agreeable than otherwise.

He has gazed into the crystal ball of life and found laughter as easy an outlet as are tears, and decidedly less wearing.

Finally, the Negro's sense of spiritual fitness has been fixed by this attribute. If our Lord, Jesus Christ, can smile down from the Cross through eternity, it is only meet that the descendants of Simon of Cyrene, who carried it but a short while, should smile through the span of mortal life.

1933 ESSAY CONTEST AWARDS

COLLEGE GROUP

Subject: "The Significance of the Achievements of Negroes."

1. Cecil James Posey, Knoxville College, Knoxville, Tenn.
2. Carrie L. Adams, Spelman College, Atlanta, Ga. (Winner 1931 College Award)
3. William A. Young, Temple University, Phila., Pa.
4. George R. Woolfolk, Louisville Municipal College, Louisville, Ky.
5. Mabel Pullins, Newark State Normal, Newark, N. J.
6. Burnwell B. Banks, North Carolina A. & T. College, Greensboro, N. C.
7. Andrew G. Paschal, Crane Junior College, Chicago, Ill.
8. Ernest Baer Johnson, Winston-Salem Teachers College, Winston-Salem, N. C.
9. James B. Oliver, Florida A. & M. College, Tallahassee, Florida.
10. Harold Roland, South Carolina State College, Orangeburg, S. C.
11. Olga Roberts, Metropolitan Trade College, Los Angeles, California.

HIGH SCHOOL GROUP

Subject: "Why Mention the Negro's Accomplishments?"

1. Elwood McKenney, Boston Latin High, Boston, Mass.
2. William Lloyd Purifoy, Stillman Institute, Tuscaloosa, Alabama.
3. Violet M. Harrison, Roxbury Memorial High, Roxbury, Mass.
4. Helen E. Armstead, Hannah Penn High, York, Pa.
5. Victoria E. Todd, Dunbar High, Wash., D. C.
6. Cordelia P. Key, Cardozo Business High, Wash., D. C.
7. Willianna Coleman, Thomas Jefferson High, Los Angeles, Calif.
8. Mary E. Logwood, Simon Gratz High, Phila., Pa.
9. Helen Butts, Port Richmond High, Staten Island, N. Y.
10. Mattie Caldwell, Crispus Attuck's High, Indianapolis, Ind.
11. Alice V. Shorter, Dunbar High, Wash., D. C.

JUDGES

S. Malcolm Dodson, A.B., Editor of ORACLE
 Carlyle M. Tucker, A.B., LL.B.
 William C. Jason, Jr., A.B., LL.M.
 Walter A. Gay, Jr., A.B., LL.B.

Robert D. Baskervill, A.B., A.M., LL.B., National Director

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF NEGROES

By CECIL JAMES POSEY

● Proudly we present the winning essay in the college group of our 1933 Contest. It is rich in thought and expression.

THE English poet, Robert Browning, said "the future I may face, now I have seen the past." These words contain an idea that is sometimes expressed, but more often practiced. It is the thought that the only way of judging the future is by past activity. The more important occurrences of the past are written and compiled as records of history. Therefore, we sometimes scan the pages of history for knowledge of past generations. There are, also, certain tangible things which stand as monuments to our predecessors. As time passes races halt to recapitulate, nations turn back to their beginning, mankind in general recalls his development. We trace our progress from the primitive state to the present level of civilization. Thinking of these things, invariably, a question rises in our minds. Why do we pause and earnestly study history? Why do we watch the Western sunset when tomorrow the Eastern horizon will bring a new day? It appears that the answer might be this: Man must be inspired, and man must be filled with optimism. In other words, if man is to make progress something must cause him to feel that he can do it; that he ought to do what he can. Now the average person is ambitious, at least, to a certain extent. Ambition alone is not enough. Ambition is only a fuel. To illustrate what I mean, let us consider the steam engine. The firebox might contain everything necessary for a fire, yet for a very obvious reason the engine does not respond to the throttle. The fuel is not aflame. It must be lighted to produce driving power. A man's ambition may be compared to the fuel in the firebox of an engine. It needs must be ignited to obtain the dormant power. The heritage that offers a challenge to posterity is the best spark. This challenge is seen best in historical accounts. Thus history is the force that drives an individual or group toward new and greater achievements as generations pass by. History is a telescope through which we look at the future while standing in the midst of the present.

A reason for considering the past of the Negro race is to predict that which lies before us; to seek conclusions concerning the future, a view of which is cut off by the clouds of today's commotion. A detailed account of the many lines of work in which Negroes have participated would require volumes. In some fields they have left immovable footprints. It seems, however, that a few general lines of activity should be mentioned briefly. We have made some political, educational, and economic advances. From each of these fields I propose to give a few examples. This seems the logical thing to do, because my final conclusions shall be a result of the interpretation of the meaning of these achievements.

The educational and economic progress of a group may be aided or hindered by political conditions. I believe that the greatest improvement along educational and economical lines came after some political adjustments had been made. For that reason, it is with the political side that I desire to deal first. When the Emancipation Proclamation became a part of the Constitution of the United

States, Negroes were granted certain deserved rights. Whenever an individual or group is granted the status of citizenship that person or group is due all the rights promised by the country. As citizens, the black man and woman expected to enjoy their constitutional privileges. For years about all that was enjoyed was the knowledge that on paper they were free. In certain sections they could not even vote. This being true, we know that to hold an office was an impossibility. These things must be mentioned, for without political justice conditions are not ideal for development along all lines. As time passed there has been improvement. In spite of difficulties we have advanced until a large percentage of the race can at least vote. (In some sections the white American still refuses to yield to that which is inevitable.) If we give over to retrospection, it looms in our minds that black men have held public office from councilman to United States congressman. At the present time the Hon. Oscar Depriest is a representative from Illinois. He is a recent example of the influence of Negro voters when they cooperate. In this single congressman we have proof that we must cooperate if we are to be effective in gaining better results from a political point of view. As a group we are a vast minority and must live in harmony.

At this point let us consider education. Formal education has become an important part of every youthful person's life. That is the case today, and it has aided in the struggle of the Negro since the dark days of early freedom. Before discussing some examples which may be attributed to formal education, I shall mention a few educational theories. They contain my reason for stating that education has been responsible for a measure of the race's attainments. In Dewey and Tufts "Ethics," we are told that "consciousness is a curious middle ground between hereditary reflex and automatic activities on the one hand, and acquired habitual activities upon the other." Education teaches us that we should make as many actions habitual as possible; for once an act becomes a habit it is usually a time saving acquisition. The psychologists tell us that this is true because automatic actions require little or no conscious thought. Then, a conclusion which naturally follows is that formal education increases a person's leisure time. It is an accepted idea that people do creative work in hours of leisure. This, it seems, is corroborated by the progress of the race. As we become more and more enlightened, the results of our creative ability become more and more evident. The accomplishments of the race grew continually brighter. We now have the music of Dett and Burleigh, the art of Tanner, the sculpture of Fuller, the literature of Washington and Dubois, and the poetry of Cullen and Dunbar. Various churches, and such men as Booker T. Washington, lead the way upward from ignorance. That is, ignorance viewed with the idea in mind of illiteracy and certain kinds of culture. Tuskegee and similar institutions have stood as lighthouses in the midst of a seething sea of need. As a result, thousands of informed men and women are to be found throughout the United States and the world. The education of the race is reflected in many ways, only a few of which I have given. Each reflection adds to the prestige of the group.

Somewhat in correlation with educational advance, we have had economic improvement. When the Emancipation Proclamation became a law, the race as a whole was a penniless group. The situation was extremely grave. Over night men had ceased to be slaves and had become masters; masters of their own lives. Immediately after freedom was gained the Negro was like a small boy who became lost in a large city. He knew where he wanted to go, but did not know how to get there. Our forefathers knew what they wanted to accomplish. How to start out was the problem. There were two things which those four million liberated people did possess. They were endowed with a hopeful spirit and blessed with physical fitness. They were obsessed with the idea of improving their condition. Consequently from the valley of poverty we have climbed considerable distance up the mountain of financial well being. Considerable urban and rural property has been acquired. Church property alone has exceeded the two million dollar mark. Another large improvement is in the field of insurance. There are a number of successful businesses of this kind operated by race people. Also, with pride, we can point to our bankers as well as to our depositors. In the field of industry, the names of Madame C. J. Walker, A. E. Malone, and S. W. Rutherford are too well known to require any lengthy comment. Glancing toward invention we come upon the names of J. E. Matzeliger and Granville T. Woods. These are just a few names from the many that might be used as examples. It seems as if the above cases furnish ample proof of economic progress.

From the facts in the preceding paragraphs, it is very clear that there is something in our history to think about. In this treatise, it is with the significance of the attainments of the race that we are chiefly concerned. There are two outstanding facts which cannot be contradicted, I would think, in the face of our record. First, the Negro is an intelligent branch of humanity; second, the heights to which the race ascends will depend upon the industry of the group itself. The word industry is used with the idea of willingness to work. May I revert to the first of the above mentioned facts, namely, the intelligence question. After consulting the works of several psychologists and intelligence experts, I find that the intelligence quotient of Negroes is usually placed very low on the lists. This might signify that the black American is less intelligent than the white citizens. Does it? Is it true that we do not have as much potential brain power as they? The test of the psychologists would indicate that the answer is yes. This answer, however, is based on experiments and theories formulated by men who tested certain percentages of the population. There are a number of things which may, or, may not, have affected these tests. Let us go further. In view of the achievements of the race the answer to the question, "are we less intelligent?" is no. This last answer is supported by those "immovable footprints" mentioned elsewhere. Those attainments which were accomplished by struggling under circumstances such as few people have had to face. Now it has been said that the Negro has only absorbed the white man's culture. Even if this be true, it does not change the mien of the intelligence question at all. The very fact that the race was capable of absorbing this "culture" is indicative of the black man's intelligence. Since it has been shown that the Negro can comprehend what his fellow citizen offers as requisites of civilization, it seems like ignorance, folly, or

prejudice, to doubt the degree of his intelligence. I am speaking of intelligence as compared to that of races of lighter skin. If these men of African descent had lived in the midst of this civilization without becoming acquainted with it, then there would have been cause for alarm. As it is, there is no need for a feeling of inferiority. That is, unless some new type of super men begin an existence on this planet. The achievements of the race signify that we are not an inferior people.

With the truth in mind that we are not an inferior group, but one endowed with average human capacities, let the second reality be considered. In substance it is this: The race will determine the success or failure of the group. The very circumstances, in spite of which we have gained our present status, are indications of that fact. Moreover, it has been proved in the past by other groups. For example, consider the Egyptians of ancient history. Thorough investigation has proved that they were very industrious. Their civilization is praised as the best of the ancient people. They rose above the average but they worked that it might be done. The early settlers of England furnished another example. The first inhabitants of that country were mainly three distinct tribes, the Angles, Saxons, and Jutes. There were no fundamental differences in these tribes, except that the Jutes were superior craftsmen, and industrious people. They were the first group to rise to power. With these examples and the difficulty of our own progress before us, it appears that we are right in concluding that hard work is essential to great achievements. Thus, we may truly say that the future success of our race will be determined by our own industry.

Elsewhere, I wrote that a reason for considering the activities of the Negro was to predict that which lies before us; to reach conclusions concerning what is awaiting just over the crest of the hill. In other words, to see if our past should make us optimistic or pessimistic about the future of our group. If we are forced to take the latter view, defeat and oblivion is certain. But it is not necessary for us to take the pessimistic attitude. The past proves that we have a great deal of mental potency. It shows, likewise, that it all depends upon our actions. Thus, I feel safe in saying we are destined to gain distinction and universal recognition. The future holds social, economic, and political justice. Justice is inevitable.

In conclusion, if these optimistic predictions and these inspired hopes are to be realized, we must think. Thought must precede our acts. We must, so to speak, work as hard as the Egyptians and the early English. Every question which affects the race must be carefully scrutinized. Every problem should occupy our thoughts until a solution appears. It is vital to us that we be mentally alert, and that we constantly do things. To use a common expression "no one will give us a handout." We must labor as no other race has labored. Booker T. Washington realized the necessity of work. In the book "Up from Slavery" he says, "the actual sight of a first-class house that a Negro has built is ten times more potent than pages of discussion about a house that he ought to build, or perhaps could build." Ancestry has always challenged youth. Each succeeding generation of Negroes should challenge posterity by adding to the list of achievements. Success awaits us, but only through diligent mental and physical effort.

OUR NEGRO ACHIEVEMENT PROJECT

By ROBERT D. BASKERVILL, *National Director*

WITHOUT a vision a people perish. In my opinion no more fitting expression of our objective can be stated in the following quotation from our Achievement Week Circular: "Realizing the vital necessity for bringing to the knowledge of the nation the Negro's accomplishments, vigorously, and without bias, a national Negro collegiate fraternity seizes upon this opportunity to render a service to its race by furthering an annual project pertaining to Negro achievement."

It isn't necessary to remark that our 1933 Project has justified its existence, because the unprecedented activities of local chapters stand as mute testimony of that fact. In order to secure the maximum benefit from the appropriation for the Project, it was considered advisable to lay great stress upon nation-wide publicity of our efforts through our Negro press. With that in mind this office did not distribute any literature on specific achievements of Negroes. It was thought advantageous, however, to prepare and distribute to local chapters, and representatives of the fraternity information setting forth the purpose of the Project. This information was incorporated in a circular letter since it would be more appealing than a mere "flyer." These circulars were distributed by some chapters at their local programs, while others mailed them to persons whom they knew were interested in Negro achievement. It was the consensus of opinion that persons with this information were in a more receptive mood insofar as our objective was concerned.

This issue of the ORACLE lists the successful participants in our Essay Contest and the essay which received the first award in the college group. The task of the judges was not an easy one because in the main the essays were of a very high calibre. The subjects for the contest were so arranged that participants had free rein to express individual opinion. The judges were young men of ability. In selecting young men as judges there was every assurance that they would be the best appreciators and appraisers of youth opinion. I express appreciation to S. Malcolm Dodson, Carlyle M. Tucker, William C. Jason, Jr., and Walter A. Gay, Jr., a very able group of judges.

The success of the Project was due, in a large measure, to the assistance given the director by a special nationwide committee composed of Brothers Wm. E. Baugh, Indianapolis, Ind., E. B. Weatherless, Brooklyn, N. Y., Irvin Hoffman, Charleston, S. C., Richard York Nelson, Ardmore, Pa., Gilbert Stocks, Houston, Texas, Francis

Dent, Detroit, Mich., James E. Miller, Pittsburgh, Pa., Clarence L. Monroe, Atlanta, Ga., George Billingslia, Ardmore, Pa., Wm. S. Baskervill, Cambridge, Mass., Alfred Scott, Wash., D. C., and Wm. Pinkett, Denver, Colorado. These men assisted local chapters in their vicinity in putting over very splendid programs.

It would be futile to attempt to enumerate the various programs, radio and otherwise. We might proudly look upon this accomplishment of Omega as a stepping stone to a bigger and better Project for 1934. It is my earnest hope that our 1933 Project shall stand as a monument to guide us to further expansion along this particular line. "Such a program will enhance the place that the Negro Achievement Week has already assumed in American life, and will definitely and effectively stimulate Negroes toward greater racial consciousness and increased ambition."

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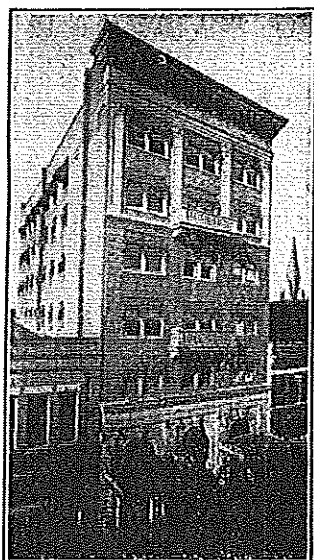
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