Editorial

THE AFRO AMERICAN

A Champion of Civic Welfare and The Square Deal

An Independent Weekly Newspaper

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What The "AFRO" Stands For

1. Colored policemen, policewomen and firemen.
2. Colored representatives on city, county and state boards of education.
3. Equal salaries for equal work for school teachers without regard to color or sex.
4. Colored members of boards of State institutions where inmates are colored.
5. The organization of labor unions among all groups of colored workers.
6. A university and agricultural college for colored people supported by the State.

Who Would Be Hurt?

Considerable turmoil was caused in religious circles when a large number of militant clergymen of the A.M.E. Church sent resolutions to their leaders urging that the Bishops' Council, scheduled to meet at Jackson, Mississippi, next week, be held elsewhere.

The clergymen objected to the statement attributed to the Mississippi mayor who announced that he "would not do a damned thing for Negroes." This demand of the self-respecting clergymen who refuse to be guests of a municipality which hurls insults at the race follows closely upon the action of the National Student Federation which met in Washington recently and voted thumbs down on all Jim Crow cities as meeting places.

This use of an economic yardstick — the fingers of cities whose bad manners make it impossible for all-colored and mixed bodies to entertain their members on a basis of equality may eventually educate them to the fact that segregation and Jim Crow are liabilities rather than assets.

The meeting place in Mississippi should have been turned down when first offered. It is unfortunate that A.M.E. bishops are not more alert and more discriminating in their choice of a meeting place.

Financial Castor Oil

The Roosevelt "Brain Trust" has put such a halo of mystery around the monetary movements of his administration that the average reader does not know what this deflated dollar means. The last announcement places the value of the dollar in gold between fifty and sixty cents, but to plain John Smith it does not mean much in everyday spending language.

The big-monied fellows know, however, just what is going on, and some of them are kicking. You would, too, if someone told you that the President was going to take forty or fifty cents out of every dollar you have in your pocket. Now, the Brain Trust is trying to sell a story on his Square Deal program. It seems that President Roosevelt is giving these fellows a good dose of castor oil in order to help clean up their constitutions.

At first he coaxed them, like a good mother, to take the dose by putting their hoarded money to work. Some few did, but most of them decided to let the other fellow take the dose. Now he is holding their noses and compelling them to swallow.

In plain everyday language, the President is taking money from those who have it, and he is dividing it among those who have none. A few years ago, such a procedure would have brought down the wrath of every capitalistic newspaper in the country. They saw the medicine so supinely is that perhaps they realize that their control of affairs in this country resulted in the biggest depression of all times. They can scarcely afford to criticize the good way, however much they may be opposed to the medicine.

Not Fit to Catch Rats

As fast as new jobs are invented, there are those who decide automatically that only white workers can perform the duties required.

The most indicative instance, although tragic in its subtle implications, is to be found in the newly organized rat-riddance campaign being waged under the direction of the Baltimore Health Department through the C.W.A.

When the city officials, in attempting to develop new jobs for the unemployed, decided upon using a corps of men to go about the city setting traps for rats, a requisition for a number of men on the relief rolls was sent in, the white men were selected, and the colored men sent back as unsuited for the work.

The AFRO, anxious to learn just what qualities they possessed which made whites by the grace of God better rat catchers, made a two startling discoveries.

Irving Forsythe, white, investigator for the National Re-Employment Service, believes that no colored person has intelligence enough to catch rats. While he probably got his idea from Commissioner Gaither, Gaither's attitude toward the colored man's fitness to serve on the police force, we feel that he is carrying this fallacy of mental inferiority too far.

From other sources it was learned that the workers were turned down because "they could not be trusted to go to the second floors of white homes for fear they would steal."

Evidently these C.W.A. officials do not read the prison rolls in local penal institutions, or they would know that all of the nimble fingers, including big grabbers as well as peanut pilferers, are not black. The implication is the same old insult of indicting the whole group because some may be dishonest.

Catching rats is no easiest job for which any race could clamor, but we resent setting it out as one which our citizens cannot properly perform.

$44 Per Apartment

The proposed plan to clear up a slum district in this city by replacing it with apartments renting for around $44 per month is so plainly a crudely devised profiteering scheme that perhaps little attention should be given it. The need, however, for both slum clearance and better apartments here is one which we should not allow to be lost sight of in a shuffle like this.

Evidently the men who drew up the $44 per month apartment scheme did not take the time to study the practical factors involved in providing housing for families many of which have a total income of about $44 per month at present. Even if they planned to fill these apartments with a higher income group, they would still leave unsolved the very problem they are trying to meet, for they would then drive the people of the slum areas to other slums.

What we need is a genuine plan which will provide healthy low-priced living quarters for low-waged people. The bulk of the wage earners in Baltimore are making around $80 monthly, and such a bread winner with a family of from three to five people could not safely pay more than $25 monthly for rent. The housing traffic, which almost became a racket a few years ago, is still carrying too much of the profit burden. It should be possible for any family with a minimum salary to own a decent home of their own, but under present conditions, this cannot be done.

At least there should be opportunities to rent modern quarters at prices within the smallest minimum salaries.

THE WHAT-CHA COLUMN

By W. I GIBSON

ENIGMA

AT THE SOUND of my curt "Come in," my door swung open slowly, and there before me stood a wild-eyed, shabby and unkempt youth, his hands fumbling nervously at the brim of a frayed and tattered cap.

The 15-year-old youngster looked five years older, and he shuffled his feet and glanced downward sheepishly as my glance met his. For a moment that seemed almost a year, neither of us spoke; but somehow I managed to say, "Come in, and sit down."

It had been fully three years since I had seen the lad and, frankly, it was only upon second glance that I recognized him as the well-groomed and cheerful youngster who lived surrounded by all the comforts of life in a small Illinois town, just three short years ago.

"You will very likely want to know what brings me here," he finally began, sensing correctly what would be my first question. "The answer is simple—I ran away from home."

There was a sort of fading bravado in his voice as he uttered these words and he bit his lip gingerly before resuming his narrative.

"Yes," he continued, "I ran away from home. This makes the second time for me. The first time was not so bad, but this time the breaks have been a little against me, and I'm ready to go back."

There was an earnestness in the youngster's voice which, to the uninitiated, would be definitely misleading, but as I looked at the chap and listened to his recital, I was convinced that even though he felt that he spoke the truth, he was wrong.

"A year, maybe more," I said to myself, "and the wanderlust will again overpower him and send him prowling about the country."

"Listen, Bob," I said (and Bob's really not his name), "tell me just why you left home. You had one of the finest homes in town, plenty of clothes to wear, good food, amusements, spending change, and were doing well in high school. Why in the world would you want to leave such an environment for the uncertain existence which you are leading? As far as I know, you were not treated disciplined. Why did you leave?"

The youngster looked wistfully out of my office window. In the distance he could see smoke curling high, higher from the stacks of factories and industries. Then he turned his face to me and said, "Mr. Gibson, I've always preferred the open road.

"But I'm changing this time," he added quickly, sensing that I was about to interpolate a remark; "I'm going back to school and make good."

We chatted for a while of this and that and then he took his departure. In the meanwhile, I had made transportation arrangements for him to return home. He was to report the next day at the Travelers' Aid bureau in the station, receive his ticket and be placed aboard a homeward-bound train.

"I'll see you tomorrow," were his parting remarks.

He was not at the station at the appointed time and has not been seen in city life since, though, I'll see him again.

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Joe Green was as good an automobile mechanic as one would want to find—if he was just Joe without trouble. Someone was always wanting to find him and failing in the attempt.

Those who knew Joe best, however, knew that when he would keep a tent from the shop he could almost invariably be found in the back room of an uptown speakeasy (this was in the days B.R.—Before Repeal), with a whiskey glass in one hand and a book on psychology in the other.

The study of psychology was an obsession with Joe, and the more he read the more he was convinced that he was cut out for something other than a garage mechanic. The study of the sub-conscious mind, inhibitions, impulses, neuroses, et al, intrigued him, and soon the motive became more disciplined. Why did Joe leave?

He finally came to the point where he could only see himself as a man of wealth, traveling about the world, meeting the big people and seeing the sights of which he read or seen on the screen of the corner movie emporium. The fellow neglected his back room of an uptown speakeasy (his own) and his steady customers slowly began transferring their business to the fellow who ran a garage in the next block.

Joe awoke one morning to find himself virtually bankrupt. His creditors were demanding their pound of flesh and what little belongings he had had been wiped away when the bailiff completed the deal. Folded. The man was frantic.

Friends nodded their heads knowingly whenever his name was mentioned. To think that a man with an opportunity to make a young fortune in the automobile repair business would muff such a golden opportunity. The whole thing was mystifying.

Joe finally managed to pull himself together. Today one may see him working in the shop of the fellow in the next block—yes, working for the man who was once an inconsequential rival, but who today has expanded his business to take in an adjoining property.

Joe is a changed fellow. He has just crawled out from beneath a big car on which he was working. From one hip-pocket protruded a wad of oily waste and from the other—a soiled magazine on psychology.

I don't guess that I can really explain it," he finally offered. "There's just something which gets into my blood at times and makes me want to travel—no matter where I happen to be. I hitch-hiked and ridden the rods of freights from the Atlantic to the Pacific and Atlanta to Coast, and I've also ridden first class on some of the country's crack trains. Somehow, I've always preferred the open road.

"But I'm changing this time," he added quickly, sensing that I was about to interpolate a remark; "I'm going back to school and make good."

We chatted for a while of this and that and then he took his departure. In the meanwhile, I had made transportation arrangements for him to return home. He was to report the next day at the Travelers' Aid bureau in the station, receive his ticket and be placed aboard a homeward-bound train.

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Concords and Discords

By LLEWELLYN WILSON

Beginning, what no doubt will be a series of testimonials to the beloved and much respected Fannie L. Barbour, by the community at large here in Baltimore, for her long and valuable services here as teacher and developer of youth, the faculty at Douglass Junior-Senior High School, tendered an informal luncheon, testimonial and presentation in the music room at the school on Wednesday afternoon of last week.

The event was delightfully beautiful, in that it was marked by the straightforward simplicity, which was among the many sterling attributes of character which marked the everyday life of the long public career as a teacher, counsellor and friend," of the woman whom the corps of teachers was honoring on the occasion of her voluntary retirement. The testimonial was conceived as a type of "family gathering" and was therefore restricted to the immediate members of the present Douglass faculty.

While the faculty acted as unit, yet the details of the affair were specifically in charge of a committee headed by Ralph V. Cook, head of the commercial and industrial arts department at the school. Other members of the committee were:

Ralph Reeding, head of the departments of English and history; John J. Wheeler, head of the department of physical and natural sciences; Emma Price, head of the department of household arts;

Mrs. Miller, Helen Reynolds, Meta Redden and Herbert Frisby, teachers in Douglass Senior High and acting supervisors in the departments of English, mathematics, history and science, respectively, in the junior high schools of the city;

Beatrice Reseby, Irene Simonds, Ida Lewis, Cyrus Marshall and Clarence Chambers, of the department of mathematics, which Miss Barbour headed for so long a time.

A brief but interesting program was rendered, consisting of three numbers was presented by a committee which namely was:

Edna Over Gray, Ethel Hodges, Thelma Coleman, Howard Hucles, Gough McDaniels and Llewellyn Wilson.

In a clever speech replete with witticisms of a timely and humorous nature, Ethel Hucles presented Miss Barbour with a fitting memorial, artistically inscribed with old rose letters by Leroy Taylor, of the fine arts department. His sentiment was expressed in a leather-bound portfolio, and was autographed by each member of the faculty. Miss Barbour was also presented with a diamond brooch as a token of the esteem in which she is held by her former colleagues and co-workers. The presentation was formally made by Ralph Cook.

Miss Barbour, in accepting the gifts, in a neat speech, told how now that she was formally relieved of school routine, she was going to attempt to interest the community in providing means for a scholarship fund for deserving pupils who should come to Douglass High in the future.

Musical selections were offered by the Douglass Teachers' Quartet, Ethel Hodges, accompanist; Thelma Coleman, Edna Over Gray, Howard Hucles and Gough McDaniels. This ensemble sang Nevin's "The Rosary" so effectively that the group was forced to repeat the number.

Edna Over Gray, singing in excellent voice, projected a group of three numbers to the delight of the assembled group.

Mrs. Gray's numbers brought to a close a very delightful program, at the conclusion of which refreshments were served.

It was learned during the course of the afternoon that Charles Gilbert, school custodian emeritus, and at present chief custodian at the Douglass High, began his school career as a janitor in the school room here in Baltimore on the day which Miss Barbour entered the system as a teacher.

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Recently the attention of music lovers here was called to the forthcoming recital of Georgia Cynthia Lawrence, contralto and baritone tenor, which unfortunately for local lovers of music, are to be held on the same evening, January 23, and in the same neighborhood, at Ames M.E. Church and at the Douglass High School Auditorium.

Following the notice that the two recitals were conflicting as to the date selected, both managements worked co-operatively and heroically to make some change as to the time of holding the concerts; but there were many factors which made it impossible to hamstring change the dates. However, there has been throughout the whole procedure, on the part of the managements of each artist and on the part of the artists themselves, a lovely and magnanimous spirit of mutual helpfulness, each for the other.

The large advance sale of tickets for each artist gave to one of the potent elements which prevented a change or postponement of date impracticable. This knowledge is well known to practically all locally minded citizens here, who are vitally interested in the projection of musical enterprises. To think that two major artists can be presented to Baltimore musical audiences on the same evening, and to have each artist present to their audiences commensurate in size with the importance of the appearing artists, simply means that Baltimore are growing in the appreciation of worthwhile music. Consider with a population of nearly 145,000 members of our group, we should have enough musical talent in our communities who know, enjoy and appreciate high class music, to adequately support two concerts, even though these concerts be held on one and the same evening.

On the other hand, with as many agencies as we now have in Baltimore busily engaged in sponsoring leisure time and recreational activities of various types, it occurs to me that the writer thinks there might be some type of "clearing house" or central bureau, which might be notified by prospective promoters of concerts on proposed dates; a central agency, which would keep a check of the coming events and would immediately inform management of concerts previously arranged so that, to some extent, concerts on dates would be to some extent avoided.

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Abia Jackson, sole supervisor of music in the elementary schools here in Baltimore, finds time, despite her other duties, to attend orpearsals regularly of the City College Orchestra, in which organization she is a first violinist.

Miss Jackson, who has been a member of the City Colored Orchestra since its inception, is credited as remembered as the first soloist to appear with the municipally sponsored symphony orchestra, the only one of its kind for Negroes here in Baltimore. In addition to service in the orchestra, Miss Jackson holds membership in the City Chorus.

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Among the younger pianists of our group, William Allen, an assistant at the Howard University Music School, ranks high. Mr. Allen is a graduate of Oberlin Conservatory of Music, and the Institute of Musical Art, New York City, where, as a scholarship student, he was a pupil of James Friskin.

Mr. Allen has appeared in recitals in some of the larger cities here in America and in many of the leading colleges. Mr. Allen is also noted for his skill in accompanying.

Press notices from daily papers as far West as Portland, Oregon, speak flatteringly of his ability as a pianist.

Mr. Allen will accompany Allyn Cox, here next Tuesday, January 23 in Douglass High Auditorium.

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James O. Jones, one of the treasures of the Pullman porters on the municipal symphony, has submitted a new "Gavotte," which the orchestra will play at its coming concerts. The music is well conceived and has been played with much enthusiasm by the members of the group.

Capital Spotlight

By LOUIS R. LAUTIER

The millenium may yet come Strange things are happening. Friendships, there's the case of Armond Wilson (Elks' grand exalted ruler) and Armond Scott (past grand exalted ruler). Yesterday's foes are today's friends.

Before Finley was elected as head of the Elks, he and Armond were bosom friends. Armond managed Finley's campaign for election as grand exalted ruler. Finley was elected in Newark in 1932. Afterwards, he and Armond fell out. The two men began feuding. At each Elks' convention—to say they abused each other would be putting it mildly.

But men become soft with the years. The two met in U Street the other night.

"Hello, Armond!" Finley greeted him.

"Hello, Finley!" Armond replied. They shook hands, giving each other the Elks' grip.

"Come on, let's have a drink," suggested Finley.

"I can't drink that bad whiskey," replied Armond. "If you want a drink, I've got some prescription whiskey at my house, and if you'll come around I'll give you a drink."

The two walked toward Eleventh Street and turned south in Eleventh Street.

So what?

A few minutes later Ed Lawson walked up to Tiffany Tolliver and told him Finley said bring his car around in Eleventh Street. Ed and Tiffany got in Tiff's car and drove into Eleventh Street. When the car got in front of No. 1822 Eleventh Street, Ed told Tiff to pull into the curb.

"Pull into the curb for what?" asked Tiffany. "Armond lives there, and I know Finley isn't in Armond's."

Anyway Tiff pulled into the curb. He and Ed got out. Ed led the way into Armond's, and rang the doorbell. They heard shuffled feet and Finley and Armond in a peace conference.

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"I hear Finley and Armond have made up," I remarked to Perry Howard, "and Finley was among those Armond's house the other night.

"That's nothing," he replied. "What do you think of this? Finley and Billy Hueston had a membership drive in Newark the other night and George Bates (ex-grand secretary of the Elks) presided at the meeting."

Another yarn to reach this column concerns Mack D. Rowe and Clark Griffith, the big baseball mogul, who owns the American League champions.

Just before the opening game of the world series was to be played here, Rowe leased a vacant stretch from Howard University in back of the Howard Theatre on U Street's northwest. He planned to turn it into a free stand during the series.

On the day of the first game Rowe turned up to begin business. He found some of Griffith's hirelings had set up a ticket booth and were selling tickets. They would not let him open his concession.

After the world series was over, Rowe took Perry Howard with him to call on Griffith. Griffith was cold and had happened to be willing to settle with Rowe. He became indignant, virtually telling his visitors to get out of his office.

Instead of going where Griffith had suggested, Rowe and Howard went to Washington, where they began to talk earnestly. Griffith was in the gutsiness. He and Howard shook hands. After a while the case was held in the case but settled out of court. The legends have it that Rowe was given $100 for loss of the opportunity of running a barbecue stand during the world series.

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The one yarn I can't understand, however, concerns a group of Howard University students who created a scene at the Howard Theatre last Sunday. What puzzles me is why did they do it? Was it a comedy sketch belittling pansies?

The Howard students, Bardu Ali, the master of ceremonies, steps in front of the curtains and tells the audience that a sketch would now be presented showing what goes on "on the hill after dark."

The curtains are drawn and Ali introduces the writer that there might be some type of "clearing house" or central bureau, which might be notified by prospective promoters of concerts on proposed dates; a central agency, which would keep a check of the coming events and would immediately inform management of concerts previously arranged so that, to some extent, concerts on dates would be to some extent avoided.

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Late City Forum

Douglass Hi Girl Thinks Costonie Movement Ridiculous

To the Editor of the AFRO:

I am not in "bondage" as my friend Mr. Carr stated in his article last week. No Negroes are in bondage to-day, we are free as any race in the world.

The Negro lacks backbone more than pride.

I think Mr. Costonie's idea of boycotting the merchants on Pennsylvania Avenue was ridiculous. He is causing the Negroes of Baltimore City to be dependent.

Those stores on Pennsylvania Avenue are owned and operated mostly by white merchants, they have a perfect right to hire white clerks and salesmen. "If you had a colored place of business, would you hire a Chinaman, Italian?" Mr. Carr. "No" you would hire colored salesmen and clerks. Why should we as a race expect the white merchants to do so?

Mr. Costonie would have spent his time more valuably if he had tried to instill in those same boys and girls I saw parading Pennsylvania Avenue, to train themselves commercially, save their money, and put their drug stores, department stores, chain stores, etc., beside the Pennsylvania Avenue merchants.

Then we as a race can boycott the merchants of Pennsylvania Avenue with a permanent success.

GLADYS BUTLER SULLIVAN
D.H.S. Class '27.

Thinks South Baltimore Needs No Religious Revival

To the Editor of the AFRO:

I am wondering whether the average Negro has ever realized that he or she can not possibly serve God without a revival.

Here in South Baltimore, John Wesley, Ebenezer and Leadenhall are in their second week of their "Great Revival."

The Revs. Mr. Dean, Beard and James are in charge.

As an observer, I do see that South Baltimore is in need of a revival, but have not been able to see the need of the "type" of revival she is now witnessing.

No community has been, can be, or will ever be elevated through an Ad. sort of date revival.

This is a new day and of course we need a new "Elsie."

"Dry bones in the Brock of Jesus", "Daniel in the Lion's Den," and the like are all right in their place, but yet, it is to be denied that it takes intelligence to appreciate Christ and to escape the traps and pitfalls of Satan?

Even house to house good-will visits are all right in their places, but how about a little reading, writing, spelling and counting?

Is there any strong active Negro Business League? How about a little politics, that is, the creditable kind?

How about a little recreation for the "Dirty" young men who are coming up? Yes, the kind of recreation higher than social recreation.

JAMES CALVIN GROSS

Ramses Club Not Rowdies, Say Neighbors

To the Editor of the AFRO:

The officers and members of the Ramses Club, 1212 Druid Hill Ave., desire to correct the erroneous impression that has been created by a certain clique is composed of a bunch or rowdies.

All of our members know how to conduct themselves and deny that we ever created any disturbances at any of the dance halls. We have been giving some of the social functions and have held our own in sports and believe that the reports are due to the fact some who have fallen into disrepute are not members of our club, but imposters.

The officers are:

W. Campbell, president; E. Campbell, vice president; W. Hawkins, treasurer; C. Wilkins, financial secretary; Mr. Green, recording secretary; H. Martin, business manager; J. Washington, sergeant-at-arms; W. Morsell, editor; C. Conquest, chaplain.

The members are:

J. Thomas, J. Hood, L. Lonesome, J. Hood, J. Blount, J. Smallwood, F. Young, J. Young, M. Brown, J. Hawkins, C. Styles, J. Styles, R. Collins, J. Collins, J. Green, T. Gross L. Woods, M. Diggs, J. Woodson. N. Cooper, W. Gross, H. Mayfield.

Speaking of Delays

The Baltimore Sun

Apologists for the Salisbury and Princess Anne lynchings continuously attribute these outbreaks to the tardiness of justice in the courts.

Euel Lee was a Negro who was finally hanged for a murder committed near Salisbury. He was arrested and indicted shortly after the crime was committed, and the case proceeded with great speed. But, owing to errors by the trial courts, he was able twice to secure a new trial, with the result that the case dragged on a year elapsed between the crime and his execution.

The theory of the apologists for the lynchings is that the people of the lower Eastern Shore resent the law's delays so bitterly that they must take matters into their hands and then George Armwood rather than risk having their feelings harrowed by another fair as slow as the Euel Lee case, is a fair illustration of the beginning; but the course of events in Somerset County is wearing it thinner than ever.

George Armwood, Negro, was murdered on October 18, 1933. It was January 15, 1934, before the Somerset County grand jury got the case indicted and ready for the consideration of the crime. Trial is to say, it required thirteen weeks and six days time to set the machinery in motion. This is many times slower than the corresponding procedure in the Euel Lee case.

Hence, if apologists are right, the prospect is appalling. If the delay in punishing Lee was so maddened the Shore that it murdered two Negroes, here is delay enough to cause it to exterminate the Negro population. But we doubt that it will do anything of the sort.

ALL-NEGRO CAST FOR NEW OPERA CREATES STIR

Music World Startled by This Innovation of Composers.

OPENS IN CONN., FEBRUARY 27

Principals Picked from Harlem Choirs.

(Continued from Page One)

selves into the fanciful and religious moods demanded by his score, was accepted as legitimate excuse for the departure from American tradition.

Harlem Source for Singers

The singing ensemble of thirty voices was enlarged from the original Eva Jessye Choir, additional voices being selected from scores of applicants. Due to the stiff requirements by vocal quality, natural intelligence, personality, experience and musical knowledge, many singers who have appeared in musical and operatic productions of past seasons could not measure up. For the first time within memory, musicianship and real ability were the sole determinants in the selection of a Negro ensemble.

In the entire opera there is no suggestion of race, color or anything along that line. The change-ment of the ensemble was a simple matter compared to filling of stellar roles. As the Scriptures have it, "many were called, but few were chosen." The completed cast to appear in the world premiere in Hartford, Connecticut, on February 8 is as follows:

Beatrice Robinson Wayne as Saint Theresa, chief soprano role; Edward Matthews as Saint Ignatius, baritone; Embry Boiner as Saint Chauvez, tenor; Bruce Howard as Second Saint Theresa, alto. These are the four saints referred to in the title. Roles of scarcely less importance are those of the Compere, filled by Abner Dorsey, basso; Saint Settlement, constant companion of Saint Theresa, by Bertha Fitzhugh Baker, soprano.

Incidental solo passages are allotted to George Tunber, baritone; Randolph Robinson, tenor; Josephine Gray, Charles Spinnard, Dra Vaughn, Effie Mason, David Bailey, Taylor Gordon.

Lead Chosen from Chorus

Most difficulty was experienced in filling the role of Commiere contralto role calling for technical knowledge, energy, personality and flawless stage manner, in addition to good voice and perfect enunciation. Lead is held down by singers recognized in Harlem circles found themselves unable to handle the role. Hence, Commiere is left come desperate with rehearsals approaching. Finally, a young man famous in England, who was called on to do this most important work and is finding the role extremely difficult, was chosen, giving no difficulty with the other principal characters and Eugene suggesting more intricate problems.

Symphony Maestro to Conduct

Alexander Smallens, of the Philadelphia Symphony, will conduct the orchestra and singers in the Hartford and Philadelphia appearances. Florence Mills, who has been called one of the most significant artists in America, is designing the settings and costumes.

"Whiteface" Suggested

In released publicity matter the following appears: "It is found by Jasper Deeter, director, subject to colored folk playing the roles of saints on the stage, the Negro artists in the cast will play "whitefaces" and "colored" folk. Should such a question arise the theatrical solution will be with Richard Harrison playing God in "The Green Pastures" because white people in black face are accepted as saints, but if a second cast follow that black people in white face will be recorded the same reception. Is even the most warped-minded Southerner ready to admit that it be considered sacrilegious for a black person to represent God? It has long been conceded, with video devotion the Negro is the most religious of all peoples. That belief is shattered in "The Green Pastures" of virtue the same for all? Time will be recorded the same reception. Is even the most warped-minded Southerner ready to admit that it be considered sacrilegious for a black person to represent God? It has long been conceded, with video devotion the Negro is the most religious of all peoples. That belief is shattered in "The Green Pastures" of virtue the same for all? Time will do not matter. The opera will prove revolutionary in many ways.

John Houseman Staging

Staging is being done by John Houseman, known Hitherto as a playwright, his adaptation, "Three and One," now making a successful run with an original play by Paul Green. Rehearsals are members of the cast are Annabelle Ross, Assetta Marshall, Olga Maitland, Harold DeverVery, William O'Neil, Cordelia Patterson, Margaret Perry, William, Holland, Paul Smellie, Thomas Anderson, Dorothy Brownie, Alberta Taylor, Edward Batten, Lena Holzey, Cecil Murray, Ponce Hunter, Leonard Fraser, Charlotte Alford, Flossie Robertson, Jessie Swan, Sadie McGill.

EVA TAYLOR

New York singer, who is heard on the national hook-up every Saturday with the "Harlem Fantasies," which includes the Southernaires.

Road, Florida A. and M., New Orleans and Tuskegee.

London Artist Directs

Due to the unintelligibility of the text, stage set, movement and gestures are being relied upon to tell the story. The choreographer, then has created dances for the principals, the chorus and the ensemble, be tried out for the part.

Furnishing the greater surprise of the production, Miss Jessye secured on every point and in one instance, the choir, from the ranks to a principal in a production that will make a musical history in the United States.

Pay for Rehearsals

Another surprise, no doubt, goes down in Harlem history is that all participants are being paid, weekly for rehearsals, exclusive of fair salaries for actual performances. There is therefore the utment in reliability. Interest and well-being on part of the entire cast.

Rehearsals are being conducted daily at Saint Phillip's Episcopal Church, West 133rd Street in Harlem and it is a delightful revelation to see and hear Negroes in a stage setting attempt to give a score that was specially devised to puzzle and astonish the most learned. There is constant variance between music and text—abrupt modulations, peculiar phrasings, unusual without meaning and whole portions that appear not to "make sense." Yet, never fail to do so in expression of the composer.

Ensemble High in Intelligence

Due to the nature of the production it was necessary that only persons of unusual intelligence be allowed to audition. Question of ability of some applicants it was found that those accepted represented many leading schools in the country, among them Howard University, Morgan College, Fisk University, Wilberforce, Hunter College, Cheyney State, Bennett College, Bethune-Cookman, Livingstone, Bryan Houseman, known Hitherto as a playwright, his adaptation, "Three and One," now making a successful run with an original play by Paul Green. Rehearsals are members of the cast are Annabelle Ross, Assetta Marshall, Olga Maitland, Harold DeverVery, William O'Neil, Cordelia Patterson, Margaret Perry, William, Holland, Paul Smellie, Thomas Anderson, Dorothy Brownie, Alberta Taylor, Edward Batten, Lena Holzey, Cecil Murray, Ponce Hunter, Leonard Fraser, Charlotte Alford, Flossie Robertson, Jessie Swan, Sadie McGill.

Dixie CWA Puts Women to Work Cutting Underbrush

WASHINGTON—Under the CWA program in Mississippi, a detail of six women has been set to work cutting underbrush in the Vicksburg National Park, according to a report made by Mrs. Ellen S. Woodward, director.

According to Arno Camerer, white director of the Park, this is the first time women have been employed in this work in the park. Civil work projects upon which women are employed include such projects as library work, cataloguing, farm housing surveys, mattress making, payroll study, nurses and typhus control.

Funeral Directors Meet in Delaware

WILMINGTON, Del.—The Delaware State Colored Funeral Directors' Association met at the residence of Mrs. Brown, 1714 Tatnall Street, on Thursday for the election of officers.

Those elected were:

E. Washington Thorton, president; Edward R. Bell, vice-president; Mrs. Mary Thorton, secretary; J. W. Ware, treasurer, and Austin Long along with William R. Thorton, Mary Ware and Mrs. Brown, were elected trustees.

The group was entertained by Mrs. Brown, following the election, with an elaborate repast.

Hawaii Gov. Bill Back to Committee

WASHINGTON.—The bill authorizing the appointment of the governor of Hawaii without regard to his being a citizen or resident of Hawaii was recommitted by the Senate to the territories and insular affairs committee last Monday.

The bill passed the House during the last session and would have permitted the appointment of a governor of Hawaii from the United States.

Puerto Rico Gets New Governor

WASHINGTON. (ANP) — President Roosevelt nominated Major General Blanton Winship, former judge advocate of the army, to succeed Robert H. Gore as governor of Puerto Rico on Friday.

General Winship was rejected last year to visit Liberia as the personal representative of the Roosevelt. After leaving Liberia he went to Geneva, Switzerland, and took part in the negotiations before the League of Nations looking toward a solution of the Liberian problem.

Says Shoe Shiners Equals of Great Men

CHICAGO, Illinois (ANP) — The humble shoe shiner has the same right as the president of the United States, that the world is willing to give a Shakespeare, an Abraham Lincoln, Dr. H. race J. Bridges, leader of the Colored Baptist Society, said over the radio on Monday.

Dr. Bridges was speaking from Station WCFL, and he gave an address on the subject of the men are created equal. It was sponsored by the Chicago Urban League.

The speaker stated that his statement, "All men are created equal," is not to be taken literally, political utterance, but is rather a thing that lies deep in the hearts of all men and at the roots of history.

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