9 Governors, 27 Mayors, 55 Bishops, 92 Editors Sign Resolution to Curb Mobs

Spingarns, Mrs. Ovington Attacked for Crawford Case

Miss Martha Gruening Hits N.A.A.C.P. "Old Guard" in Article.

HOUSTON'S DEFENSE IS ALSO ASSAILED

NEW YORK—Attacking Joel E. Spingarn, chairman of the board, Arthur Spingarn, head of the national legal committee, and Miss Mary White Ovington, treasurer, as the old guard among the N.A.A.C.P.'s national officers and their rubber stamps, Miss Martha Gruening, white, former N.A.A.C.P. leader, has written an article in the current issue of New Masses, entitled. "The Truth About the Crawford Case: How the N.A.A.C.P. 'Defended' Him into a Life Sentence."

Miss Gruening also reveals that Dr. Charles Houston, Crawford's N.A.A.C.P. counsel, has just been appointed as general counsel for the association and director of the program of the joint committee representing the American Fund for Public Service and the N.A.A.C.P.

Houston Hasn't Changed His Mind

To the AFRO-AMERICAN Wednesday, Dean Houston said:

My comment is that I stated my position in considerable detail in the article which Ransom and I wrote on the case and which was published in The Nation, July 4, 1934.

Nothing has occurred in the meantime to cause me to change the views there expressed. My counsel and I investigated all phases of the case and still believe that we acted in Crawford's best interests.

All the facts known to us were laid before Miss Gruening, and I turned over to her my entire files, including even the original correspondence.

If, in spite of all this, Miss Gruening is still convinced that Crawford did not receive justice, I suggest that she assemble her facts and lay them before the proper authorities.

C.P. reported in the AFRO for December 15).

Rape Houston's Defense

Miss Gruening charges that Walter White, secretary of the N.A.A.C.P., was at one time so convinced of Crawford's innocence that he wrote a story for the Crisis, accusing a white man of the crime. Boeing Ilsley of her murder and that of her maid, Mrs. Mina Buckner, in Middleburg, Va., in January, 1932—the crime for which Crawford was convicted.

The story states that the only reason Mr. White was prevented from publishing the article was that Mr. Houston told him the alleged confession he claimed Crawford had made in private, thereby violating his client's confidence.

Compromise, Betrayal Charged

Miss Gruening points out Mr. Houston's failure to call or interview the REV. WILLIAM H. PECK, pastor of the Greater Bethel A.M.E. Church, Detroit, who has been put forward as a successor to Dr. Robert Russa Moton as president of Tuskegee Institute, view alibi witnesses in the Crawford case, or to take an appeal.

His appointment as general counsel for the N.A.A.C.P., she says, shows that the national officers of the association and the trustees of the Garland Fund have put the stamp of their approval on this policy of "cowardly compromise and betrayal of colored people's interests, apparently with full knowledge of all the facts."

Miss Gruening continues:

"Old Guard' Blamed

"The responsibility for this policy lies not only at Mr. Houston's door; it lies also at the door of the old guard (the two Spingarns and Miss Ovington).

"All three were connected with the N.A.A.C.P. in the early days when it was a militant, though bourgeois, organization. They deserve credit for the work it accomplished in those days, but they must also bear the responsibility for the organization's present degredation and weakness."

Dean Haywood to Speak at Y.M.C.A. on Sunday

"Some Religious Perplexities" will be the subject of an address that will be delivered at the 4 o'clock assembly in the Druid Hill Avenue branch of the YMCA, Sunday, by Dean John W. Haywood of Morgan College.

Last week's speaker was Carrington L. Davis, acting principal of the Dunbar Junion High School, who spoke on the subject, "The Disciple in the Crowd."

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Play Refreat Is Turned into Inferno, 6 Die

(Continued from Page 1)

and Marian. He was born in West Chester, Pa.

Buried Each Other

Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Annabelle, Marian, and James were in bed at the time of the tragedy, although they had experienced some uneasiness over the absence of William and Richard. Earlier in the evening they had sent William out to look for Richard, who, in the meantime had returned alone and was himself sent back to find William.

The two, according to the mother's conclusion, finally met in the Gay Street building just before the fire broke out. No arrangements have been made for the funeral.

Father Watched Fire

Reginald Wilson, 10, the son of Carlton and Mrs. Fannie Wilson of 1409 Ashland Avenue, was a fourth grade pupil at School 129. His mother, who declares her son was a regular playmate of the other unfortunate youths, returned to her home at 1:20 p.m. to learn of the fatal incident.

The boy was in the street at the time, and saw the fire, but was unaware that his son or the other boys were in the building.

Young Wilson is survived by his mother and father, four brothers, James, George, Edward and Charles; and two sisters, Nellie Aquilian and Mrs. Pauline Thomas.

No date has been set for the funeral, which will be directed by Robert Young.

Edward Robinson, 14, was a student at Dunbar Junior High School and was in Grade 8B. His mother, Mrs. Irene Robinson, is a native of Baltimore, and his father, Walter Robinson, a native of Laurel, Md.

A sister, Helen, 12, attends P.S. 124.

Washed Dishes

"Edward was the proper dishes as usual last night, and about 7:30 he left, saying he was going playmate, came by the house and asked Edward to come out to play.

"About a half hour later, looked out of the window and saw a red flare reflected on the windshield of an automobile parked near the house. I knew that my family was still in the basement to play, and when I looked out the street and saw the flames, I had a premonition that the fire was in the building where my son was playing and that he had been burned to death.

"I became hysterical, and Clifford Fagan, a friend of the family, took me home."

Fagan said: "I took her home and then went to Johns Hopkins to find Edward. While I was taking Mrs. Robinson home, however, firemen had removed the body from the basement and had taken it to the hospital.

"I rushed to the hospital and was able to identify the boy's body by the clothing which remained. Edward had on a brown suit, white blouse, black leatherette cap and high, black shoes."

"Going Out to Play"

Andrew Bogier, 11, 1231 East Madison Street, was one of five children, and was in Grade 2A at Dunbar Junior High School. He left home about 7:30 p.m., telling his mother, Mrs. Helen Bogier, that he was going out to play with the Robinson boy. That was the last that she saw of Andrew.

At 10:30 p.m., police, seeking to notify Mrs. Bogier of the death of her son, failed to get a response to their rapping on her door. Neighbors, seeing the police, and sensing that something was wrong, and feeling that Mrs. Bogier was asleep, went to the house, aroused her, and informed her of the tragedy.

Mrs. Bogier is a native of Cumberland, Va., and her husband, Harry Bogier, a native of South Carolina, who is employed with Sparrows Point, have been living in Baltimore for 13 years. Besides have four other children: Geraldine, 5, Helen, 3, Loraine, 2, and William, 9 months old.

Mrs. Annie Booker, aunt of young Bogier, told with feeling of the youth's unusual devotion to the other members of his family.

First Time Out Late

William Reddick, 11, of 802 Aisquith Street, was in the second grade at P.S. 129. As far as his mother, Mrs. Marie Reddick, and his aunt, Mrs. Elmer Ewell, who had rearer him, knew, Thursday night was the first time that he had been anywhere after 8:00 p.m. without their knowing where he was.

Young Reddick was on his way to the neighborhood grocery store. It was revealed, when he was stopped by a playmate, Ralph Hinton, 12, of 1105 E. Madison Street, who was also burned to death.

"Hurry up," Hinton is said to have called, "I want you to come down to the place (the store basement) and we can have some fun."

Knew Fole Were Away

Because neither his aunt nor his mother was home at the time, Reddick answered that he would, and shortly afterward, joined the other boys in the basement. He was not until late Thursday night that his family found out what had happened.

The youth was a member of Mt. Sinai Baptist Church, and only just before Christmas had joined a Boy Scout troop recently organized in his area. His father is dead. Funeral services will be held Sunday afternoon from the church.

Boy's Father Dead

Hinton, the youngster who urged him to come to the basement rendezvous, was in the 8B grade at P.S. 129. His mother, Mrs. Clara Hinton, declared that as far as she knew, her son did not frequent the afore basement, and that she could not account for his presence there on this occasion.

Young Hinton's father is dead, according to neighbors. Two sisters, Spella and Mildred, and a brother, Cleo, also survive. No funeral arrangements had been completed late Friday.

Eyewitness Tells How Boys Died In Basement

"I got up to the scene just as the firemen were bringing the boys out. two-by-two, on stretchers, and it surely did remind me of the pictures I have seen of carrying shot-up soldiers to the hospital.

"My wife and I were sitting in our home when we heard the fire we heard the fire engine.

"The wagon stopped up the street wagon stopped just up the street from me. My wife put her head out the window, but said she couldn't see much, for the because traffic was not tied up. We dismissed the matter from our minds.

"In a few minutes a friend of mine came in and hollered that the pressing parlor was on fire and that he hoped none of his clothes would burn. He asked me to come on and go to the shop with him. When we got there, the firemen were bringing the boys out on stretchers and I could not see whether or not they were burned, but I do know that their clothing was all water-soaked.

"One of the firemen said that he thought the boys had been suffocated by the smoke and drowned by the water which was shot into the building to prevent the spread of the fire."

Sigmas Refuse to Verify Tale of Riff with Rep. Mitchell

FLASH

WASHINGTON— Congress convened at noon Thursday, and Representative Mitchell answered "present" to the roll call in a loud, firm voice.

He is scheduled to take office as the No. 141 old House Office Building. AFRO reporters found a charwomen cleaning this office.

Mr. Mitchell left immediately after being sworn in and could not be reached. Mr. Mitchell was said to have been in the gallery and could not be found on the first floor.

Representative Knute Hill (Dem., Wash.) is occupying Congressman DePriest's old office at No. 1434 in the new House Office Building.

WASHINGTON — Reports circulated here that Representative-elect Arthur W. Mitchell, former national president of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, refused to address the Greek-letter society's dinner meeting at Howard University, Sunday, because a member of attempting to stage a "one-man show," went unconfirmed this week.

Beyond intimations that the Congressman had experienced some difficulties with members of the fraternity, there was a closed meeting on Friday, members of the fraternity are mum.

Crowd Disappointed

Representative Mitchell's failure to appear at Howard University's Andrew Rankin Chapel, Sunday, as scheduled, caused great disappointment to a large audience, and produced a strained atmosphere at the meeting.

Preconvention announcements heralded the appearance of the Congressman at this meeting as his first public appearance in Washington since his election.

Jesse W. Lewis, newly-elected president, when pressed for a statement, told the AFRO that any statement concerning the failure of Mr. Mitchell to speak at the meeting would have to come from the representative himself.

Mitchell Silent

When reached over the telephone, the Congressman said, "I have nothing to say."

The reason given from the platform at the meeting by A. Langston Taylor, master of ceremonies, for the absence of Mr. Mitchell, was "Congressional business."

Mr. Lewis, who pinch-hit for him, said that he was notified two hours before the meeting that he had to speak, and apologized for the hurried manner in which the manuscript was prepared.

Illinois Caucus Picks Mitchell for D.C. Post

WASHINGTON — Representative-elect Arthur W. Mitchell, Democrat of Illinois, who defeated Oscar DePriest in the recent elections, was nominated by the Illinois Democratic delegation, on Tuesday, for appointment as a member of the District Committee.

Nomination of Mitchell was made at a meeting of the House Democrats from Illinois to further the race of Representative Arthur A. Sabath for post of majority floor leader.

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A Baby in Your Home
SCIENTISTS now state that "complete unity in life depends upon sex harmony" and that the lack of it is the one greatest cause for unhappy marriages. Also that every woman has the capacity for mutual expression but too often she is underdeveloped or suffering with general female disorders which rob her of her normal desires.
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Dr. Hu's treatment has helped married women who were cold, nervous, irritable, or despondent, or victims of other ailments which have caused them to be unable to give their husbands the love they want to give them. Dr. Hu's treatment has helped married women who were barren to become mothers. Dr. Hu's treatment has helped married women who were troubled with leucorrhea, painful periods, or other female disorders which robbed them of their sex desire and made their husbands unhappy.