A Variety Of Jobs Are Available For Competent Workers In Chicago Area

By JAMES A. SHEPARD

CHICAGO, Ill. — Last week a Negro real estate operator called a friend of mine, seeking assistance in getting a stenographer. His former stenographer had been called to a "nigger" job and the real estate man had searched high and low in Chicago for a replacement for her without any degree of success.

My friend pulled all the strings he had but was unable to help the distraught gentleman.

That incident impressed me because it was the first time I had ever heard of a Negro being unable to find a stenographer. Since then I have been told by employment agencies, Negro and white, that they are unable to find Negro stenographers, typists, etc., who are qualified to fill positions which are open to them.

Recently I had lunch with Charles S. Lane, secretary of the Public Education Department of the Urban League and several of his associates. My purpose was to explore the whole economic situation as it concerned Negroes in Chicago, especially the shortage of Negro clerical workers.

The officials at the League informed me that they could place 4000 Negroes in clerical positions in Chicago right away with salaries beginning at $40 to $50 per week, and if I knew of any Negro men or women in Raleigh or elsewhere, qualified for this type of work and wanted to work in Chicago, for me to ask those persons to please contact the Chicago Urban League, 3022 South Wabash Avenue for immediate permanent employment. I am hoping that there are those in Raleigh, stenographers, typists, etc., who will investigate this offer and, if they find they can advantageously accept the League's service, will lose no time in moving to Chicago.

The midwest offers a golden opportunity to profesionally trained Negroes, including teachers. With his opportunity beckoning, it is rather absurd for qualified trained Negro workers to waste both their time and their talents performing menial tasks, offering neither advancement nor security.

The Chicago Urban League, operating under the dynamic influence of Mr. Sidney Williams, Executive Secretary of the League is keeping pace with other Urban Leagues in the east and midwest, in helping to break down racial barriers and getting Negroes placed in all types of positions and jobs.

Beginning in 1916, the Chicago Urban League has been the instrumentality through which thousands of Negroes have taken a LONG STEP FORWARD during the past 36 years.

The job of the League is far from complete. However, there are still many types of businesses that have no awakened to the meaning of democracy. The big insurance companies, the Metropolitan is a vicious example, the banks and telephone company still feel that a messenger's job is top level job for a Negro. But, looking back, and seeing how far it has helped to bring the Negro forward, the League is quietly but persistently firing away at the remaining bulwarks of intolerance and bigotry.

As you know, Illinois does not have an FEPC statute. The Republican controlled legislature at the bidding of Big Business, refused to enact such legislation two years ago. The fight for such protection for minority groups, will be renewed however, when the 1953 legislature convenes. To forestall the passage of this much needed legislation, the Illinois Chamber of Commerce, held a minority group employment clinic in the Congress hotel here last Friday. The Chamber of Commerce group feels that if it can show employers the advantage to them, of discontinuing discriminatory hiring practices, discrimination based on racial prejudices and point out to these employers the many mutual benefits accurring from a bi-racial hiring policy, the need for an FEPC will be eliminated.

At this clinic, one loop employment manager, reported that during the past 20 years, employment bias had dropepd 75 per cent and a spokesman of the School of Education, University of Illinois asked industry to get 'Jackie Robinson' to fill positions. The Chicago Urban League is working with the Illinois Chamber of Commerce, just as it does with all agencies seeking to better the economic condition of the Negro, but it is not expecting a voluntary end to job discrimination in Chicago and Illinois any more than it happened elsewhere.

The pressing and immediate need of the League now is enlarged and adequate working quarters. You would wonder how so much can be done in the crowded, unsightly and unsanitary-looking building now housing this important agency. However, there is every reason to believe that some

[illegible] by the League's Executive Secretary, Mr. Williams, a sum of $20,000 was raised, one-fifth of the existing campaign goal of $100,000. That $20,000 was contributed by exactly 200 persons, making it the largest sum of money ever contributed anywhere in the world, for any cause, by a group of Negroes of comparable size.

Dinner speakers were, Mr. E. P. Waters, Jr., Executive Editor, Chicago Defender System; Mrs. Robert L. Vann, publisher, Pittsburgh Courier; Mr. John H. Johnson, publisher Ebony, Tan and Jet, Mr. Julius Klyman of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch and Mr. D. F. Datisman, editor, the Gary, Ind., Post-Tribune. Mr. Klyman stressed these importan tpoints: (1) he hoped the Negro press will never get so much concerned with making money that it will lose its militancy, from its founding, until the present, the Negro press is the most militant section of the American press, and (2) that the Negro press make every effort to reach the leaders of the white community, schools of journalism, public and private libraries, colleges and churches of all races and denominations, if the Negro press has to give subscriptions to these individuals and organizations.

Because of the magnitude of the job done by the Chicago Urban League in opening locked doors with key of understanding, trained and qualified Negroes in Chicago, Raleigh and elsewhere, are assured of job opportunities to fit their training and qualifications. The words Trained and Qualified are not used for fillers. Chicago, like every other large urban center, has its full quota of people who can "do anything." What it needs is people who are trained to do a specific job. If you are that person, the Chicago Urban League can place you today.

—BFC—

HEART ATTACKS CLAIM TWO MEN

RALEIGH—Two men were each found dead in their homes Monday evening with deaths being attributed to heart attacks, City detectives reported Tuesday.

Howard Williams, 58, of 513 W. South St. was found dead by his wifea round 11 p.m. Monday. When Mrs. Williams came home she found the husband seated in a chair.

She told officers her husband had been under a doctor's care for heart trouble.

The body of Willie J. Bobbitt 57, was found in a house just off the corner of Freeman and Cabarrus streets. Sam Peterson who discovered the body reported it to the Police Station.

Officers found the body lying on the floor. He had been dead several hours, and rigor mortis had already set in. A sister, Mrs. Hicks,

TAKES TRAINING — Private Chiverst McCain, of Milton, N. C., son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert McCain and husband of Mrs. Virginia Thomas McCain, was recently called to serve in serve in the Army. He is now stationed in Fort Jackson, S. C.

YANCEYVILLE G. I. TRAINS — P. t. Vance D. Slade of Yanceyville, N. C., has started his Army training at the Engineer Replacement Training Center, Fort Belvoir, Va. Slade, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Willie Slade, entered the Army Nov. 17. (U. S. ARMY PHOTO)

ROCKY MOUNT MAN SUCCUMBS TO GAS

HENDERSON — A 41-year-old man, Wallace Lane of Rocky Mount, was found dead Friday in [illegible] of 706 ½ West Street told officers [illegible] for heart trouble [illegible] Hospital.

RACE DOCTORS ADMITTED TO S. C. SOCIETY

Drs. W. H. Frazier, C. T. Hoffman, T. M. McCarty, S. C. McNeill and N. F. Wilson have been admitted to the Charles County Medical Association, marking the initial advent of white and Negro doctors in a local state organization.

The new members of the CCMA, all practitioners in Charleston, are likewise members of the South Carolina Medical Association and the cab of a tractor - trailer truck which was parked alongside U. S. 1, half a mile south of Nocting.

The body was found by Brooks Harris, operator of the motor line for which Lane worked, reports here said.

State Highway Patrolman R. A. Clark reached the scene about the time Harris arrived and together they broke into the cab, discovering the body. Both doors were said to have been locked on the inside and all windows tightly closed.

Death was attributed to carbon monoxide from a faulty mechanism, which had received mechanical attention during the two days previous. The truck ignition was turned on and the headlights had been switched on to bright, although the lights were burning only dimly when the investigation was made. Lane had been dead some twelve hours when his body was found.

Lane had been due in Henderson Thursday night. Friday morning, Harris started north on a business trip and spotted the truck parked by the highway. He had stopped to investigate just as Patrolman Clark drove up.

of the American Medical Association to which the county societies automatic admission if desired.

The five medical schools all graduates of the Palmetto Medical, Dental and Pharmaceutical Association, colored, state group session offered for the abovet historical dispatches.

At a meeting held last May in Myrtle Beach by the SCMA, the group voted to delete any mention of color or race from its by-laws, there was no such reference to race or color in the constitution and to recommend that county societies do the same so that Negro physicians might become members of the county groups, a prerequisite to state membership.

At Orangeburg, Dr. Lawrence Thackston, state association president, said:

"It is not the purpose of the SCMA to change any of the recognized customs prevalent in South Carolina.

"The society has decided that Negro physicians should have the opportunity to advance themselves and their knowledge and to treat all types of cases, including some from which they have been barred in the past due to lack of membership in the recognized societies. But it is not our purpose to change social customs."

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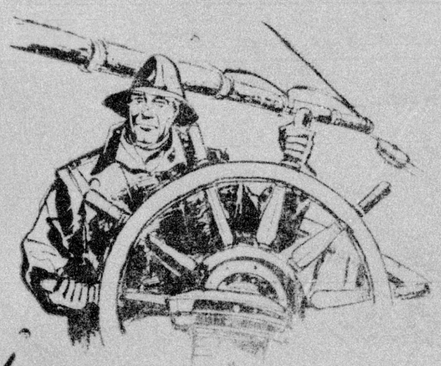

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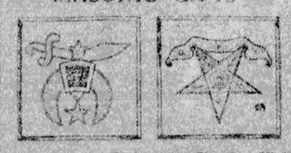

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