

HAPPY NEW YEAR

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

500 JEWISH RELIGIOUS LEADERS BACK N.A.A.C.P. FIGHT ON JIM CROW JOBS

300 Jewish Religious Leaders Back N. A. A. C. P. Fight Against Jim Crow Tactics In The National Defense

New York — Three hundred Jewish religious leaders, members of the Rabbinical Assembly of America, in a forthright declaration, have advised the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People that "we wish to associate ourselves with you in your protest against the segregation of Negroes in the newly conscripted army."

Speaking through the Assembly's social justice committee, they made the statement in a letter to statement in a letter to the association signed by Dr. Robert Gordis, chairman of the committee, and made public by the NAACP today. The complete text of the letter, which also expresses the organization's full support behind the fight to pass the anti lynching bill, follows:

"On behalf of the Social Justice Committee of the Rabbinical Assembly of America which represents over three hundred Jewish spiritual leaders in America, we wish to associate ourselves with you in your protest against the segregation of Negroes in the newly conscripted army. We regard this as a gratuitous insult to loyal American citizens and a step that is fraught with peril for the maintenance of democratic institutions."

Local Poet Wins Place In Important Volume

Durham — Miss Mary L. Fuller, 408 Erie St., East Durham, is one of the authors whose poems are included in Poets of America, 1940, Democracy Speaks, a 700-page volume recently published. More than 12,000 poets living in every part of the United States and Canada competed for a place in this important volume; only a small percentage of these were found to write poetry of sufficient merit to be accorded a place in the book. The volume contains the work of little-known authors as well as that of writers who have been published in many magazines and books. A similar volume is now being compiled and poets who are interested in having their work considered for the new book should write to the publishers for information: Avon House, 1107 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

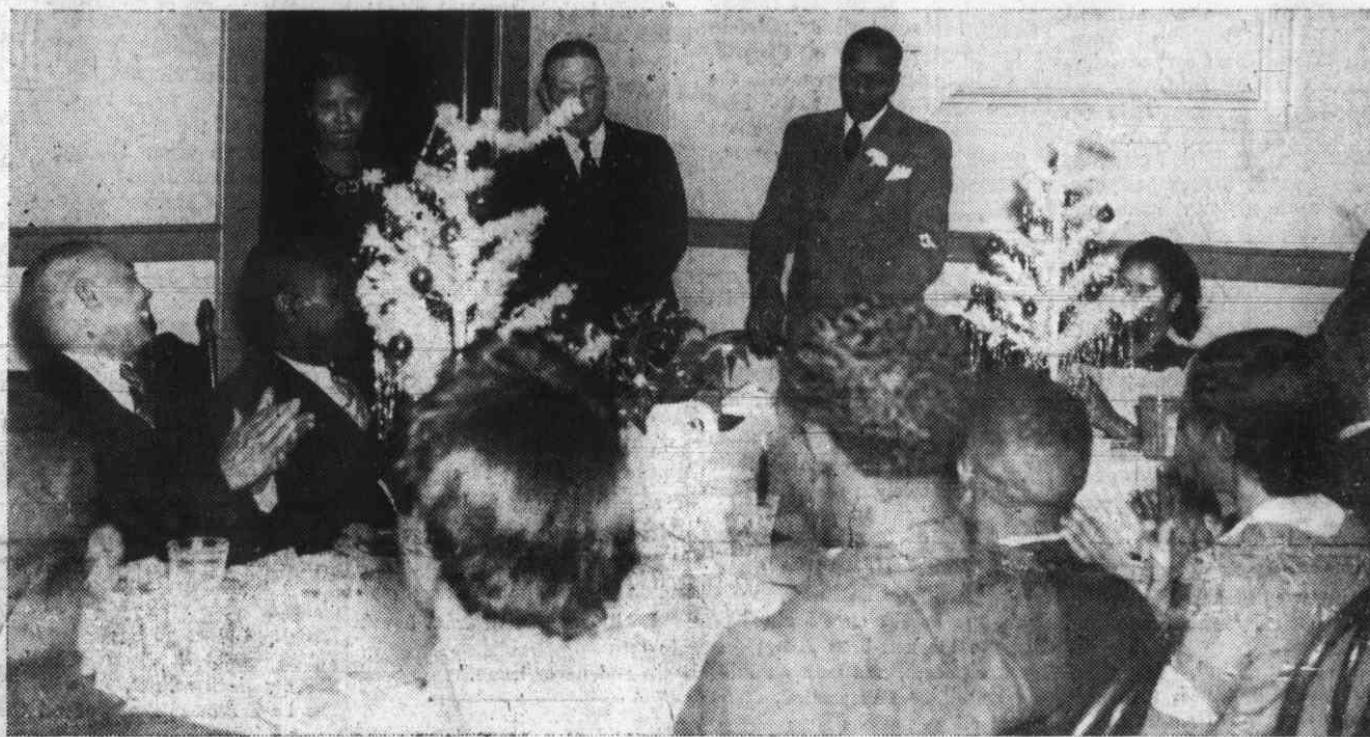
NAACP IS SPEARHEAD OF NEGRO PROTEST

New York — Characterizing Walter White as the "spearhead of the organized and unorganized Negro protest against injustice, and demand for justice in this country, Gloria Goddard, great-grandniece of Ulysses S. Grant, 18th President of the United States, and her husband Clement Wood, noted author, praised the secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People for his "restrained and magnificent" article "It's Our Country Too," which appeared in the December 14 issue of the Saturday Evening Post.

In the article, an indictment of the United States Government's policy of discrimination against the Negro in every phase of national defense, Mr. White declared that "National Negro organizations have accumulated files full of case records and put the problem in No. 1 position on their fighting agenda."

Mr. and Mrs. Wood offered their "100 per cent congratulation," in a letter to the NAACP secretary which was made public here today. "The two of us desire to put ourselves on record," they said, "on policies which should be universal among citizens of the United States, who speak loudly enough of liberty and democracy; as well as among Christians to whom the brotherhood of man is more than a window dressing slogan. We state that these policies of our government, and every brand and representative of it; Continued on page Six

Durham Public Service Employees Feted At Hotel Biltmore Christmas Eve



The above photo shows employees of the Durham Public Service Company in their annual banquet held at the Biltmore Hotel on Christmas Eve, 1940. Niles Thompson is standing near the guest speaker of the occasion, Vice-President R. L. Lindsey, beloved public service official, just after he had introduced him to the gathering. Mr. Lindsey is one of Durham's most outstanding citizens and is loved by members of both races. The banquet will be long remembered as one of the most pleasant gatherings in the annals of Public Service's relations with their colored folks; and all who present pledged their best efforts towards making "Service" the most notable part of Durham Public Service! May there be many more such occasions.

Guest Speaker



R. L. Lindsey, beloved citizen of Durham and Vice-President of the Durham Public Service Company, above, delivered a most inspiring Christmas address to the colored employees at the annual banquet given at the Biltmore hotel. Mr. Lindsey's address consisted of the story of the birth of Christ and the events leading up to it.

Many See Santa Claus First Time

Charlotte — In a setting no doubt more colorful than had been their pleasure to be a part of the children of Fairview Homes, who number many hundreds, were entertained with a Christmas party sponsored by the three women's club located in the project. The party was magnificently handled and too much praise can not be given the mothers and fathers who after working a long hard day, worked incessantly that the party might be a success, which it was. This party is significant in many respects, in that it marks perhaps, the first time that some of these mothers have prepared Santa Claus for their young. It is significant, in that it marks the awakening of more than one individual, to the fact, that their is still a Santa Claus and he is the fat round fellow that is symbolic of fellowship, love, kindness, good cheer.

To Fairview mothers club, Sewing clubs and Literary clubs goes this columnist heart felt appreciation for their successful efforts.

YMCA Host At Gala Xmas Party

Charlotte — The Second Street YMCA played host to a large number of boys, representatives of the various Gra-Y, High c, and Pro-Y, clubs at a monster Xmas party last Friday night at Second Ward School.

The boys were participants in a well planned program, which included Continued on page Eight

Seeks \$1000 Defense Fund To Free Joseph Spell

New York — "The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People intends to fight this case to the limit not only because we are convinced that Joseph Spell is innocent, but because we know that winning freedom for this man means strengthening the security of thousands of Negro domestics, chauffeurs, maids and butlers throughout the country, whose jobs are jeopardized because of this case."

This was the statement made today by Thurgood Marshall, special NAACP counsel, in connection with the call issued today by the association to citizens throughout the country to help raise \$2000 for the defense of the Greenwich, Conn., Negro chauffeur who is accused by his wealthy white employer, Mrs. J. K. Strubing of criminally assaulting her four times before throwing her from her car into the Kenisco reservoir, near Armonk, New York, early on the morning of December 11.

Spell is now confined to the Bridgeport, Conn., county Jail. After two postponements of this case, he is scheduled to appear in the police court of Greenwich, December 24 for a preliminary hearing of the charges. Emphasizing the fact that Spell as at no time admitted the rape charge advanced by Mrs. Strubing, Marshall and Samuel Friedman, Bridgeport attorney summarized the result of their investigation. The probe reveals Continued on page Six

Virginia Education Board Votes To Equalize Salaries

Leesburg, Va. Equalization of Negro and white teachers' salaries in Loudoun County, Virginia, by 1943, was voted by the county board of education, at a meeting here December 11. The board voted to wipe out the differential after it had received petition from a local Negro teacher group. Filing of the petition was the outgrowth of a state wide conference called at Richmond, November 21, by the Virginia State Teachers Association. At this meeting, which was attended by NAACP attorneys including Thurgood Marshall, special counsel of the association, the teachers voted to file petitions in every county in the state for equalization of salaries. Petitions are now on file before education boards in Richmond, Newport News and Danville Virginia.

Negro, Black Man . . . Please Explain

By Crusader Press
President Frank P. Graham of the University of North Carolina last week received a letter requesting the university to "please explain" why the university is seeking to teach race relations to students of Latin America instead of those in this country where such teaching is needed most. The letter reads in part: "If reports are true, a hundred South American students will study race relations from January Continued on page Six

Hold National Conference Of Colored Firemen

New York — Reports from Colored Firemen on railroads in the southeast and southwest reveal an alarming and serious state of affairs with respect to the continuance of the Colored Firemen in the engine cabin. Many are losing their right of seniority and are being bumped and displaced by White Firemen despite the fact that Colored Firemen may have 10 or 20 years of Continued on page Eight

3,400 To Enter Ft. Bragg By Jan. 29th

Fort Bragg, — With as many as 250 men arriving in one day, 3,424 draftees are expected at the Recruit Reception Center by January 29 from induction stations here and at Ft. Jackson, South Carolina, army headquarters said Friday. Colored men will arrive January 28, 182 on that day and 214 on January 29. A total of 398 Negroes and 3,026 white men are expected. On January 6, 126 white men will be received and after that day, 200 a day until January 16. From January 16 and including January 23, white draftees will arrive 250 a day. An announcement said 130 Negroes and 395 white persons were inducted into the the army at Ft. Bragg during the week and a half period which ended December 13.

Thousands Of Needy Citizens Receive Christmas Cheer

Charlotte — With the Salvation Army, the YMCA's and various other charitable organizations in the community contributing, Charlotte's needy were brought a measure of Xmas cheer unsurpassed in the city's history.

For the children, two theatre parties were arranged at the two local cinemas, the Lincoln and Grand, by the Salvation Army, after which Xmas bags were presented to each child on Xmas Eve. At 11 p. m. more than 1500 underprivileged kiddies received toys at the Salvation Army headquarters on North Popular St.

Queen City Man Found Dead In Bed

Charlotte — George Harris, a resident of 522 S. Caldwell street and very well known citizen of Charlotte was found dead in bed last Monday a. m. by members of the household.

Mr. Harris was a prominent member of the Col. Chas. E. Young Post 169 of the American Legion, and was well liked by all with whom he came in contact.

The coroner's report stated that Mr. Harris died of natural causes. Surviving the deceased are: a wife, two children, and a host of relatives and friends.

DURHAM PUBLIC SERVICE HOST TO ITS COLORED FOLKS AND WIVES TUESDAY AT THE HOTEL BILTMORE

Durham — The annual banquet given for colored employees of the Durham Public Service Company was held Tuesday evening in the lobby of the Biltmore hotel at eight o'clock. Approximately 30 persons were present, including most of the wives of the men employed by the local company. The lobby of the hotel was beautifully decorated for the occasion. The tables were arranged in the form of the letter "T". Turkey was served with all of the trimmings that go with it. The crowning event of the banquet was an address delivered by Vice President R. L. Lindsey of the Durham Public Service Company. In keeping with the Yuletide season Mr. Lindsey told in a beautiful manner the story of the birth of Christ and the events leading up to it. In spite of the press of many duties Mr. Lindsey took time out to be present at the banquet and together with his speech, wish all present a Merry Christmas. He was introduced by Niles Thompson who has been in his employment for approximately 20 years as his chauffeur and handy man. A big box of cigars was presented Mr. Lindsey. Continued on page Six