

8 DEAD FROM "CANNED HEAT"

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Hasten The Peace — Buy War Bonds

New Attack On FEPC Launched

Victims And Scene Of 'Canned Heat' Party Death Rides Wake "Canned Heat" Party; Takes Lives Five Women, Three Men



The above photos show the eight victims of the "Canned Heat" party held at 16 Cora Alley last Monday night. The arrow points to the room in which the revelers drank the deadly fluid as a substitute for liquor, and the place in which the victims spent their last evening together. In the upper left-hand corner of the picture is Miss Annie Beasley, in the right hand corner is Georgia Moss. At the bottom reading from left to right are: Roosevelt Stancil, Mrs. Mattie Hill, (Orphan) Annie Dowd, alias Smith, Mrs. Flora Johnson, Robert Robinson and Mrs. Elizabeth Edwards.

Smith Committee Opposes Program Of FDR And FEPC

Associated Negro Press
WASHINGTON — A new attack upon President Roosevelt executive order banning race discrimination and the effectiveness of the FEPC was launched Monday by the Smith committee on the house in a report which stated that all anti-discrimination clauses in public contracts should be prohibited by law.

The report, which mentioned neither the FEPC nor the executive order by name, declared that any such contractual provisions must come only after laws to that effect had been enacted by congress, and that no government agency had any authority on its own to insert such clauses.

Head of the committee is R. Howard Smith, Virginia Democrat. Other members are Reps. Hugh Peterson, Georgia; John J. Delaney, New York, and Jerry Voorhis, California, Democrats, and Reps. Clare Hoffman, Michigan; John Jennings, Tenn., and Fred Hartley, New Jersey, Republicans.

Several federal agencies were attacked in the report and the Federal Surplus Commodities Corp. was specifically condemned for insisting that dairy companies which sell to Uncle Sam include anti-discrimination clauses in their contracts. This is the same committee which also took potshot at the OPA for seeking to enforce price ceilings on meat.

Said the committee report after citing the regulation anti-discrimination clause in surplus commodities contracts:

"Congress has never enacted such a law and, however laudable its purposes may be, no government agency has been authorized by legislation to impose such a condition.

"The subsidy program, the lend lease, as well as the needs of our armed forces, were never intended by congress to be used as a subterfuge to impose legislation upon the country which congress had failed or refused to enact.

"Any effort to use subsidies, lend lease funds or other appropriations for any such purpose should be prohibited by law."

Although the Roosevelt executive order was not mentioned by name, the report condemned "unauthorized executive orders."

President



W. M. Rich, superintendent of Lincoln Hospital, who was recently elected to the presidency of the National Conference of Hospital Administrators, at a meeting of the organization in Norfolk, Va. Under Mr. Rich's membership Lincoln has progressed until it is now one of the leading race institutions.

Bids For Addition To Lincoln Nurses Home To Be Opened

RICHMOND, Va. — The regional office of the Federal Works Agency has been informed by C. C. Spaulding, president of the Board of Trustees of Lincoln Hospital at Durham, that bids for the contract to remodel a building on the hospital grounds and construct a one-story addition to the hospital, to provide facilities for Negro student nurses enrolled in the U. S. Cadet Nurse Corps training program, will be opened at the office of W. M. Rich, superintendent of the hospital, on December 16 at 8 P. M.

FWA Regional Director Kenneth Markwell said that plans prepared by Atwood and Weeks Inc., architects, of Durham, call for alterations and repairs to a two-story frame dwelling to accommodate 21 student nurses and construction of a brick and frame addition to the hospital building to provide space for the heating plant and ice making machinery, in order to expand the hospital's kitchen and dining room facilities.

The present nurses' home at Lincoln Hospital has accommodations for 59 nurses. The proposed additions to the hospital's facilities will provide quarters for a total of 80 nurses.

BY W. G. RHODES
Death rode high and mighty here this week, in the wake of a "canned heat" drinking party, and took the lives of eight persons. Others who are believed to have been at the fatal fiesta may be somewhere within the confines of the city in a serious, maybe a dying condition; too fearful of the law, and not afraid enough of death, to whisper the truth about being present and partaking of the death-dealing concoction that has already cost the lives of eight of their friends.

As this story is being penned there runs through the mind of the writer a panoramic review of slums, dark and dingy hovels, a muddy street, forlorn women, undernourished children, hapless men who stare at you out of sunken eyes that register defeat at the hands of a world in which there is little or no pity for the weak and unlettered. It is a street of the damned and the doomed, a street where rent collectors swarm over on Saturdays and the rest of the week like birds of prey to wring from the pockets of their helpless victims blood money for shacks that are too miserable to be inhabited by human beings. This is Cora Alley, named possible for some bundle of feminine beauty of bygone days. Be she dead or living, saint or sinner, God rest her weary bones.

Eight dead and others possibly dying. Those who are known to have paid the final debt to this city's refusal to clean up its slums, that breed crime, ignorance, filth, poverty, disease, heartless men and evil women are: Mrs. Flora Johnson, 35, married and the inhabitant of Apartment 16, and reported hostess of the fatal party, who died at Lincoln Hospital 5:30 A. M. Tuesday. Miss (Orphan) Annie Smith, 22, who died at Lincoln Hospital at 10:30 Tuesday 38, who died at Lincoln Hospital, Tuesday at 2:30; Robert Robinson, 43, who died at Duke Hospital 11:00 A. M. Tuesday; Elizabeth Edwards, 24, died at Lincoln Hospital Tuesday at 10:45 P. M.; Miss Mattie Hill, 25, died at Lincoln Hospital at 8:30 A. M., after telling police that she was at the party and that canned heat was served but she did not drink any of it. She became ill in jail Wednesday morning around seven o'clock and was rushed to Lincoln Hospital where she succumbed.

The seventh victim of the deadly fluid was Miss Annie Beasley, 25, who died at Lincoln Hospital at 10:30 A. M. Tuesday. Please turn to Page Four

Seventh Liberty Ship Is Named Prominent Negro

S. S. James Weldon Johnson To Be Launched By California Shipbuilding Company Some Time In December

The seventh Liberty Ship to be named for an outstanding Negro American, the SS JAMES WELDON JOHNSON, will be launched at the Wilmington yards of the California Shipbuilding Corporation in December, the Maritime Commission announced this week.

The vessel will play tribute to the noted poet, essayist, lawyer and diplomat who was killed in an automobile-train collision near his summer home at Dark Harbor, Me., on June 26, 1938.

Mr. Johnson, who also achieved note as a song-writer and a professor of literature at Fisk and New York universities, was born in Jacksonville, Fla., on June 17, 1871. Completing public school study in his native city, he later received B. A. and M. A. degrees from Atlanta University and did graduate study at Columbia University in New York City.

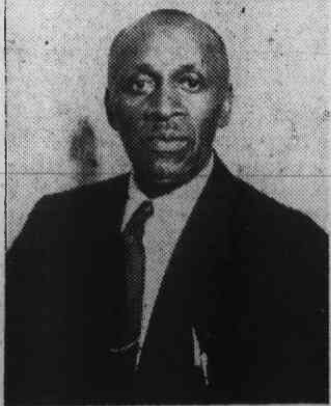
His career began as a teacher in the Jacksonville public school, which was elevated to high school grade during his

tenure as principal. During this period he studied law at night, and, in 1897, was admitted to the Florida Bar, the first of his race to achieve this honor since the Civil War.

In 1901 he went to New York City and with his brother, J. Rosamund Johnson, and Bob Cole, collaborated in the successful writing of popular songs and light operas. Later he was appointed U. S. Consul, first to Venezuela and later to Nicaragua. Returning to New York in 1910, he married Grace Nail and two years later his first book, the fictional "Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man," appeared anonymously. Its authorship was not acknowledged by Mr. Johnson until 1927.

He edited a book of American Negro poetry and two of Negro spirituals; and also wrote the English libretto for the opera "Goyescas," which was produced by the Metropolitan Opera. Please turn to Page Four

GETS CALL



Rev. P. E. Green, Durham minister who has recently been called to the pastorate of the First Baptist church of Ridgeway, N.C., has a membership of 300. Rev. Green is well prepared to take care of his new charge which has been pastored by some of the leading ministers of the Baptist church, among them being Dr. J. H. Moore of Charlotte and the late Rev. M. R. Shaw.

group were Germans, a French Bricker out of Ohio Governorship race, rests all on the Presidency.

United Council Of Church Women To Sponsor World Day Of Prayer

Associated Negro Press
NEW YORK — In an attempt to bind together every continent of the war torn world in a fellowship of intercession, the United Council of Church women will sponsor a world day of prayer on February 25, 1944, the first Friday of Lent. The national committee chairman is Miss Margaret T. Applegarth.

The theme of the program is "And the Lord Wondered That There Was No Intercessor," and suggests the use of the wise men's gifts as symbols of intercession; myrrh, symbol of intercession for the sorrows of the world; frankincense, symbol of intercession for all members of the church family in every nation and gold, symbol of intercession for the refining spirit of all mankind.

The program was planned and prepared when a large group of nationals gathered as a cross section of those meeting in all parts of the earth on the World Day of Prayer. Included in the woman, a Scotchman, a Cau-

adian, some Japanese, a kulu woman, a Greek, a Hollander, and missionaries from China, Burma, Siam, Malaya, India, Egypt, Algeria, Africa and Alaska. Others unable to be present, mailed petitions from their home lands, so that the concerns of Peruvians, Bolivians, Bolivians, Colombians, Puerto Ricans and Spaniards were also included.

From last year's observance, a prayer from Belgian Congo stated, "We do not want to back, God, to our days of witchcraft and darkness. No, we do not want to go back! Help us, God, to live for Thee. Another from the same place entreated the "Savior, owner of the broom of grace," to come to "sweep our hearts, preparing them for the entrance of Thy word."

The number of murders committed at the bridge tables is less than .2 per cent of those that ought to have been committed.—San Diego Union.

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