

# A Chronology of Negro History

- 1624 William Tucker was the first Negro child born and baptized in English America at Jamestown, Virginia.
- 1688 Quakers of Germantown, Pennsylvania, made the first formal protest against slavery in the Western hemisphere February 18.
- 1733 Samuel Sewall published the first anti-slavery tract which appeared in the colonies, "The Selling of Joseph."
- 1750 Crispus Attucks, first martyr of the American Revolution, escaped from his master in Framingham, Mass., September 30.
- 1758 Frances Williams, first Negro college student in Western hemisphere, published Latin poems.
- 1762 James Derham, the first recognized Negro medical doctor in America, born in Philadelphia.
- 1775 Thomas Paine wrote his first published essay in the cause of abolition in a Pennsylvania newspaper.
- 1776 Phillis Wheatley was invited by General Washington to visit him at his headquarters in Cambridge, Mass., so that he might express appreciation for her poem in his honor. February 28.
- 1799 Alexander Pushkin, Russian Negro poet, born in Moscow.
- 1800 James Derham began practicing medicine in New Orleans.
- 1807 British Parliament abolished the slave trade. March 25. Ira F. Aldridge, one of the greatest Shakespearean actors of his time, born in New York City.
- 1816 John Jones, "the most prominent citizen of Chicago" during his lifetime, born Greene County, North Carolina.
- 1822 Hiram R. Revels, first Negro U. S. Senator, was born free in Fayetteville, N. C., September 27.
- 1826 John Russworm was the first Negro to graduate from an American college when he received his degree from Bowdoin College, Maine. Ira F. Aldridge made his London debut in *Othello*; he never returned to America and became the most famous Shakespearean actor of his time on the continent.
- 1831 Nat Turner led the greatest slave rebellion in the U. S. in Virginia; the whole South was thrown into panic and more than one hundred and sixty whites and Negroes were killed before the revolt ended.
- 1832 Oberlin College opened and admitted Negroes at the outset.
- 1834 Slavery abolished in the British Empire.
- 1841 Blanche Kelso Bruce, only Negro to serve full term in U. S. Senate, born a slave at Prince Edward County, Virginia.
- 1845 Publication of *Les Cenelles*, in French and English, an anthology of poetry by Negro poets of New Orleans.
- 1854 Lincoln University, the first Negro College, was chartered as Ashmond Institute in Chester, Pa.
- 1858 William Wells Brown published *The Escape*, first play written by an American Negro.
- 1865 John S. Rock was the first Negro to practice before the U. S. Supreme Court. Edward G. Walker and Charles L. Mitchell were elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives thus becoming the first Negroes elected to an American legislative assembly.
- 1868 Oscar J. Junn, ex-slave, became Lieutenant Governor of Louisiana, the highest elective office then held by an American Negro.
- 1869 Jefferson P. Long from Georgia was seated as the first Negro in the House of Representatives.
- 1871 Oscar De Priest, first Negro Congressman elected from a northern (Illinois) state, born.
- 1873 Richard T. Greener, first Negro graduate of Harvard University, named professor of metaphysics at the University of South Carolina.
- 1874 Patrick Henry Healy, Negro, inaugurated as President of Georgetown University, oldest Catholic university in the U. S.
- 1875 Civil Rights Bill enacted by Congress contained equal accommodations provisions. March 1. Blanche K. Bruce became a member of the U. S. Senate from Mississippi, the only Negro to serve a full term in the Senate.
- 1879 Blanche K. Bruce presided over the U. S. Senate, February 15.
- 1886 George Washington Cable published a frank treatment of Negro problems in *The Silent South*.
- 1893 Dr. Daniel Hale Williams performed the world's first successful heart operation at Chicago's Provident Hospital, July 9.
- 1903 Countee Cullen, distinguished Negro poet of the twenties, born, May 30. W.E.B. Du Bois published his *Souls of Black Folk*.
- 1904 Dr. Charles R. Drew, "Father of Blood Plasma," born, June 3.
- 1907 Alaine L. Locke of Harvard was the first American Negro Rhodes Scholar.
- 1921 The doctor of philosophy degree was awarded for the first time to Negro women: Evan B. Dykes, English at Radcliffe; Sadie T. Mossell, Economics at the University of Pennsylvania; Georgiana R. Simpson, German at the University of Chicago.
- 1930 Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune was selected as one of the fifty leading women of America.
- 1933 NAACP made its first attack on segregation and discrimination in education and filed suit against the University of North Carolina.
- 1936 Jesse Owens won four gold medals at the Berlin Olympics.
- 1938 First woman Negro legislator, Crystal Bird Fauset of Philadelphia, elected to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives.
- 1939 University of Wisconsin refused gift whose donor limited use of funds to white students only.

- J. Matilda Bolin appointed first Negro woman judge in the U. S.; she was made judge of the Court of Domestic Relations in New York City by Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia.
- 1944 Adam Clayton Powell elected first Negro Congressman from the East. SS Frederick Douglas, first ship named for a Negro, was sunk by enemy action.
- 1946 Mrs. E. C. Clement, first Negro named "Mother of the Year." Supreme Court banned segregation in interstate bus travel.
- 1947 President's Committee on Civil Rights condemned racial injustices in America in a formal report, "To Secure These Rights."
- 1951 University of North Carolina admitted first Negro student in its history. Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, first Negro to win honorary degree from Princeton University.
- 1952 University of Tennessee admitted its first Negro student.
- 1955 Marian Anderson made her debut at the Metropolitan Opera House; she was the first Negro singer in the company's history.
- 1956 Atherine Lucy admitted to University of Alabama.
- 1959 First play written by a Negro woman, *Raisin in the Sun*, by Lorraine Hansberry, was one of the major Broadway hits.
- 1960 Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee organized on Shaw University campus.
- 1961 Robert Weaver sworn in as Administrator of Housing and Home Finance Agency, highest federal post ever held by an American Negro.
- 1963 Arthur Ashe, 19, was first Negro to join the U. S. Davis Cup Tennis Team.
- 1964 Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. won the Nobel Peace Prize.

## Together

We the people of an infelicitous time  
Stand divided in a period of tumult and strife.  
On the threshold to freedom, we huddle reluctant to fight,  
On the verge of a victory we falter — we are thrust behind.  
Do we lack the stuff that causes men to reach, and strive for more?  
Or else are we complacent, to camp on freedom's door?  
There are many joys of life to be gained in passiveness,  
But the joys of a people, proud and free, are gained through  
togetherness.

—Dorothy Cockerham

## Of Berries, Elephants And Men

I read an article of interest in the local newspaper recently which was concerned with the strange activities of the African elephant.

It seems that the otherwise stable giant is given to Bacchic reveling once a year. The annual binge is concurrent with the advent of the marula berry season. As the elephant gorges himself on this delectable fruit, washing it down the while with gallons of water, the berries begin to ferment in his belly. The result is that the normally stately animal staggers about in a most disconcerting manner, totally unbecomingly pachydermal dignity.

As the expression "pink elephant" is associated with human inebriation, implying that when one is in such a state he is apt to see many strange, unusual, or ridiculous sights, since no pink elephants exist in the sober world, one might logically expect the corresponding analogy with regard to drunk elephants to be "grey men." However, the author of the article chose to think that the drunken pachyderms were seeing "pink men." By logical implication one might conclude that pink men were strange, unusual, or ridiculous sights since they do exist in the sober world. Perhaps the pink man who wrote the article was a victim of the marula berry. Perhaps the article was written by a sober, perceptive elephant.

—Juanita Charles

## Band Climaxes Successful Year



The College Concert Band returned April 26 from a five-day tour of the mid-eastern part of the country. Monday, the band gave concerts in Graham, N. C., Lumberton, N. C., and Fayetteville, N. C. Other stops were: Spivey High School, Fayetteville, N. C.; Booker T. Washington, Rocky Mt., N. C.; Elizabeth City State College, Elizabeth City, N. C.; Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va.; South Norfolk High School, Norfolk, Va.; Seatack Elementary School, Virginia Beach, Va.; and Diplomat Motel, Stanton Elementary School, both in Washington, D. C.

The band played for Hampton Institute which is celebrating its 100th anniversary. The band received a standing ovation in Virginia Beach, where it played selections that ranged from classic and opera to pop music of today. In Washington, the band stayed at the Diplomat Motel. It played two concerts at Stanton Elementary School, where Mr. Ernest Fair

(a graduate of Winston-Salem State College) is the music instructor.

For many of the children who heard the band it was a new experience. It was their first time seeing and hearing a band, or even having the knowledge of a musical instrument. Many of the younger children came from poor homes and were only familiar with music from radios or record players.

The band members were swamped by these children who looked upon them as celebrities. They screamed for autographs, and one clarinet player was chased back to the bus by a mob wanting his autograph.

Mr. Sammy Nestico, composer of a modern jazz piece, "Persuasion," was present at the concert in Washington. He personally congratulated Mr. Robert Shepherd, band director, the band, and James Funches, a junior music major who played "Persuasion" solo on the saxophone.

## Annual Spring Concert

Winston-Salem State College Band, under the direction of Robert E. Shepherd, presented its Annual Spring Concert Thursday evening, May 9, 1968, at 8:15 p.m. in the Whitaker Gymnasium. James Funches was featured as soloist. The band played selections of Latham, Nelhybel, Morrissey and Nestico. Two major transcriptions by Lucien Calliet, the Schubert "Unfinished Symphony" and "Elsa's Processional to the Cathedral" by Wagner were also performed.

The James Derr Woodwind Quintet of the Winston-Salem State College Music Department performed "Divertimento, No. 4" by Mozart and "Movement, Opus 16" by Muczynski during intermission. The concert was free to the public.