

National Negro Congress Demands Negro Claims Examiners For Unemployed

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The following letter was sent to the Honorable Commissioner Melvin C. Hazen, Chairman of the District of Columbia Unemployment Compensation Board, Washington, D. C.

"Having interviewed, Honorable Mr. James A. Marshall, Director of the District of Columbia Unemployment Compensation Board, with unsatisfactory results, the committee designated below herewith submits, to you, chairman, and the other members of the Board the enclosed resolution relative to the employment of Negro claims examiners under the states board, with the request that this matter be brought before the Board at its meeting on Thursday, January 13, 1938.

"It may be said, for poor information, that the committee was informed by Mr. Marshall that the employment of claims examiners under the Board was not under his supervision and that he could do nothing in the matter of the committee's petition. Mr. Marshall directed the committee to see Mr. Lamson of the District Unemployment Center, who, when interviewed, denied that he was responsible for the employment of the said examiners. In view of these facts, the committee has considered it necessary and proper to bring this resolution to the attention of the full Board.

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"The committee requests further the opportunity of meeting with you and discussing this matter as soon as possible after the meeting of the Board on January 13, 1938."

This letter was signed by Rev. Arthur D. Gray, chairman of the Washington Local Council of the National Negro Congress, W. A. Hinton and E. H. McNeill. The resolution follows:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS January 1, 1938 marked the advent of Unemployment Insurance benefits the District of Columbia under the Social Act for the District of Columbia, as provided by Act of Congress; and

WHEREAS the procedure for payment of such benefits necessitates the filing of claims therefor, and the filing of claims necessitates the services of claims examiners; and

WHEREAS the Negroes of the District of Columbia entitled to benefit under the act constitute a very large percentage of the total unemployed, being the most disadvantaged group in the population; and

WHEREAS there are many Negroes qualified and available to serve as claims examiners, and there is no need for Negro applicants; and

WHEREAS there are three cents to be served exclusively by distinct divisions in the United States Employment Service for Negro work, staffed by Negroes, and into which permanent claims examiners, when appointed, will have to be placed;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Washington Local Council of the National Negro Congress demands that three Negroes be appointed as permanent claims examiners for the District of Columbia Unemployment Compensation Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Washington Local Council of the National Negro Congress pledges itself to stand solidly behind this demand, and to consider any failure to appoint Negroes as herein indicated as a case of racial discrimination in the government service and a serious affront to the Negro race; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such group, civic and political action as may be necessary to bring about such appointments, or to expose those who block or prevent such appointments, will be promptly taken; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be

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National Negro Congress Backs Senate Social Bills

NEW YORK CITY, January 12, 1938—The National Negro Congress, representing the widest masses of Negro people and their organizations, through its national president A. Philip Randolph, in a statement yesterday expressed its whole-hearted endorsement of President Roosevelt's wages and hours legislation and the Wagner-Van Nuys-Gavanon Anti-Lynching Bill now before the Senate.

At the same time the Congress expressed its support for these measures, however, it deplored the failure of President Roosevelt to include the Anti-Lynching bill among his "must" legislation, although feeling confident that the President will sign it if it is passed.

The opposition of Senator W. H. Borah to the measure was scored very sharply by the Congress. It charged him with indulging in "constitutional hair-splitting" and in trying to revive "an outworn State's Rights Doctrine in an era of economic and political organization of powers and responsibilities of government."

"Maintaining law and order by the federal government," Randolph asserted, "in the interest of preventing Negroes from being lynched, mobbed, and burned alive, is certainly the concern of the federal government, especially when the States not only display their lack of ability but also their lack of intent to curb mob law."

The Wages and Hours Bill will benefit the broad masses of unskilled workers who now exist in sub-standard economic conditions and have no protection from unfair labor practices, the statement of the Negro Congress declared.

"Negro workers who fall very largely within the category of the unskilled will benefit from this legislation," the statement pointed out.

The Congress demands, however, that agricultural and domestic workers, now excluded from the measure, also be embraced in the provisions of the bill.

TUSKEGEE BUSINESS MAN LAID TO REST

TUSKEGEE — (C) Final rites for William L. Burroughs, operator of the Greenwood drugstore, were held in the Institute chapel Sunday. Mr. Burroughs graduated from Tuskegee in '24, and was

sent to the Honorable Mr. John A. Marshall, Director of the Unemployment Compensation Board, in whose power it is to make these appointments, and to the Chairman and Members of the District of Columbia Unemployment Compensation Board.

Approved at the general meeting of the Washington Local Council of the National Negro Congress on January 4, 1938

AGRICULTURAL TEACHERS HOLD REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING AT MARY POTTER

(By J. E. Tuck)

Mary Potter School, Oxford—Agricultural teachers of Granville, Person, Caswell, and Rockingham counties held their regular monthly meeting at Mary Potter School last Wednesday. The purpose of these meetings is to discuss the current problems facing the Vocational teacher.

The topic discussed at this meeting was Supervised Practice Work. With stress being put on Project Planning and Record Keeping. Many helpful suggestions and new ideas were brought out that will aid the teacher in solving the problems at hand.

The teachers attending this meeting were: C. H. Couch, Caswell County Training School; A. W. Jones, Person County Training School; G. L. Bass, Madison High School; and J. E. Tuck, Mary Potter School. Rev. H. S. Davis, Principal of Mary Potter School, also was present and made some very helpful remarks to the group.

The next meeting will be held at Roxboro, on February 15th, at which time the topic for discussion will be 'The Farm Shop!'

TEXAS BANK HAS ASSETS OF \$443,138.32

FORT WORTH, Tex.—(C)—The Fraternal Bank and Trust company, Col. William M. McDonald, president, has assets of \$443,138.32, as of December 31, it was announced by I. P. Anderson, cashier, on Saturday. The bank has individual deposits of \$419,138.

He served in England and France with Company D, 84th Pioneer Infantry, during the World War. The McKenzie American Legion Post No. 150 served as guard of honor.

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A. & T. COLLEGE GETS A MODERN CAFETERIA

ANOTHER step in the progressive development of the college life at the A. and T. College, Greensboro, North Carolina was the establishment last week of a modern cafeteria with facilities to serve 1500 students daily in three hours, an hour being consumed for each meal. Each step on the part of the institution is in keeping with the idea of modern in every way, schools of the country. The cafeteria is modern in every way. Each student receives \$15.00 worth of meal tickets each month for \$12.00. The plan being based upon the assumption that the average student can live on 50c per day. The menu is varied and the food is reasonably priced.

The personnel is composed of exceptionally well trained and efficient men and women.

Another type of training course being carried on with the assistance of the Graduate Aid Fund is exemplified by the Hotel Workers Training Course at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama. In this course, as instituted and carried out by Tuskegee in cooperation with a number of hotel managers, a group of selected students is receiving expert instruction in the technique of hotel work. Competent graduates of this course are practically assured of employment.

All the students in training who receive this special NYA assistance must earn it through work assigned by college officials. The work is often in the nature of research or other activities closely allied to the field of study pursued. There are no scholarships or direct loans, as NYA aid is given only in the form of wages for the performance of useful work.

Assistance from the Special Fund can be obtained by applying for it directly to the college or university; the student plans to enter, as the selection of the students to be aided is the responsibility of the school officials. The Fund has been entirely allocated for the present school year but at some institutions replacements are being made at the mid-term.

\$70,000, Special NYA Fund Aids Negro Students

WASHINGTON, D. C.—More than 350 colored students are receiving assistance to pursue graduate and special studies through the Negro Graduate Aid Fund of the National Youth Administration, according to Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, director of the NYA's Division of Negro Affairs.

Among the most significant of these are library training courses organized and administered for the purpose of increasing the number of trained workers available for employment in a number of high school libraries that cannot now be accredited because they lack a trained librarian. Through the Negro Graduate Aid Fund, 150 students are receiving this training, which will lead not only to prompt employment but will contribute to the accrediting of a number of four year high schools.

The larger number of students receiving aid from the Special Fund are pursuing standard graduate and professional courses at Universities in various sections of the country. Some are preparing for the ministry, law and medicine; others are courses in sociology and practical social work. A considerable number are preparing to teach at the various school levels, others are pursuing advanced work in science, economics and business management, art and music, voice culture, home economics, agriculture and farm management and library science. In this manner, the National Youth Administration is contributing to the development of Negro leadership for the various fields and levels of both professional and non-professional work.

APEX FOUNDER FETES EMPLOYEES WITH 'ROAST TURKEY'

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.—(C) Mrs. Sara Spencer Washington, founder and president of the Apex Hair company, feted the entire staff of her company at a "Roast Turkey" dinner in her apartment Saturday evening. "A good time was had by all."

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