

# Southern Negro Youth Congress Writes President Roosevelt About Unfair Tactics Used In Memphis, Tenn.

Memphis, Tenn. — The attempts of Memphis machine politicians to drive leading Negro citizens out of the city, the interference by police with Negro business establishments, and the threats and slander heaped upon individual Negro citizens by public officials of that city since the last elections were the subject of an open letter to President Roosevelt from the Southern Negro Youth Congress, asking that the Federal Government intervene to protect the lives and property of Negro residents.

The letter, signed by Edward Strong, Congress secretary, referred to Police Commissioner Boyle of Memphis who recently declared, "This is a white man's country, and always will be, and any Negro who doesn't agree to this better move on." This statement, Mr. Strong declared, was an incitement to violence against the Negroes of the city. Mr. Strong indicated that behind the situation in Memphis was the attempt to force Negroes to vote for only those candidates endorsed by the Boyle, and "Boss" Ed Crump,

machine of "Boss" Ed Crump. The letter said, in part: "There is documentary evidence available to warrant a Federal investigation of the Crump machine. There is being established in Tennessee an American Fascist stronghold with its race hatred, enmity to labor, and suppression of freedom of speech and press."

The full text of the letter follows:

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.  
Dear Mr. President:

For the last two months in the city of Memphis, Tenn. American citizens have been daily harassed by city police, stopped and searched in the streets, publicly slandered, and threatened with their very lives because they tried to exercise the common right of selecting the political leaders of their choice.

There is a concerted drive upon the part of Mayor Chandler of Memphis, Police Commissioner Boyle, and "Boss" Ed Crump,

aided by the police department and part of the metropolitan press to force Negro leaders out of business and out of town and to intimidate the entire Negro population by wholesale arrests every day and by the placing of heavy police guards in peaceful Negro neighborhoods. Memphis residents suffering under the Crump machine domination cannot protest for they know that speaking out would mean the end of their economic security and possibly the bloodshed that has been threatened in the press and in letters received by leading citizens. Nineteen prominent Negroes have already been individually pointed out by the machine to be held responsible for anything that may occur.

The attempts on the part of Memphis officials to provoke racial unrest and violence are not accidental or pressing occurrence. Attention has previously been directed to the workings of a corrupt core of politicians in the city by the excessive police brutality, beating of labor organizers and the manipulation of elections. These are the means by which the same politicians have maintained themselves in power for over two decades. The current campaign against Negroes and Negro leaders is only a part of the warfare constantly waged by the "machine" against the fundamental rights of the people. The domination of the Crump machine means a ban on freedom of speech and of the press. It means the suppression of the right of laborers to organize freely in unions of their own choice and the driving of labor organizers out of the city by lawless gangs under the very eyes of the police.

There is documentary evidence available to prove that there is sufficient violation of Constitutional rights in Memphis to warrant a Federal investigation of the Crump machine. There is being established in Tennessee a little dictatorship, the beginnings of an American fascist stronghold within our very borders, with its race hatred, enmity to labor, and suppression of civil liberties.

## CONDUCT FLYING TRAINING AT LINCOLN "U" MO.



Readying the stage for the introduction of secondary flight instruction at Lincoln University, Jefferson City, Mo., these four members of the Lincoln staff look toward

increased attendance and personnel in the aviation courses being planned for next semester. Ten students have just completed the primary flight training course under Erskine

Roberts, extreme left ground instructor, and Charles M. Ashe, second from left, flying instructor, are now taking the CAA examination for private pilot licenses.

## THE POCKETBOOK of KNOWLEDGE

1927 2K CARS  
1928 17K CARS  
1929 17K CARS

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT TAXES ON LIGHT AND POWER CONSUMPTION HAVE RISEN FROM 3 1/2 CENTS IN 1927 ON EACH DOLLAR REVENUE TO 17 1/2 CENTS TODAY

5000,000

TWICE IN RECENT TIMES ANNUAL PRODUCTION OF AUTOMOBILES IN THE U.S. HAS EXCEEDED 5 MILLION CARS—MORE THAN WERE PRODUCED IN ALL THE YEARS BEFORE 1916

MODERN ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT IS 25 MILLION TIMES MORE EFFICIENT THAN THE FAIRLY IN ITS METHOD OF PRODUCING LIGHT

BUTLER WAS USED AS A COSMETIC BY WOMEN OF ANCIENT ROME

UNDERGROUND CITY—FRENCH AUSTRALIAN OPERATES WHO GROW THEIR CROPS UNDER THE CITY OF PARIS, LIVE IN A SUBTERRANEAN CITY OF THEIR OWN THAT HAS A COMPLETE SYSTEM, STREETS, LIGHTS AND THEIR HOMES, BEDS, VESTIBULES, BEDS



## WARNING! carrying cash is dangerous!

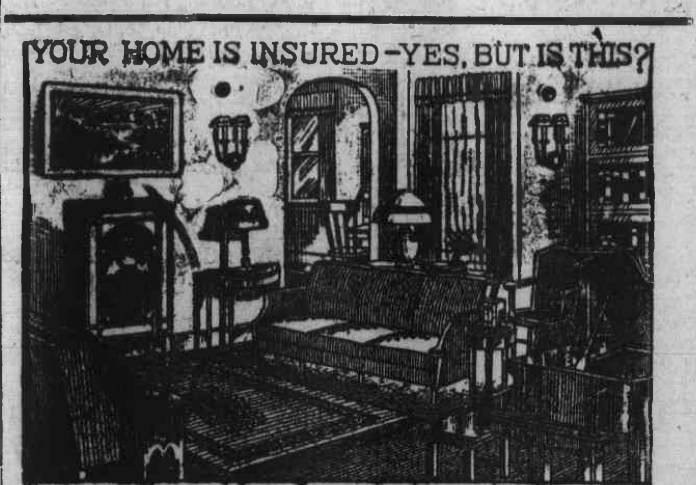
On a motor tour, or any other trip away from home—suddenly your bill-fold is gone! Misplaced? Dropped from your pocket? Stolen? No matter how, you may be stranded without funds, your vacation wrecked, your itinerary ruined. Why run such risks?

Protect your travel money against loss or theft with American Express Travelers Cheques. They are your own personal funds—safe, economical and spendable anywhere. Just sign your name to each cheque when you buy them—again when you spend them. They provide you with a "checking account" wherever you go. Should they be lost or stolen, reconsigned, your money will be refunded in full.

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## Protest War Department Plan To Segregate Negroes, Through Plan To Call Only White Draftees

New York — A vigorous protest against the studied policy of carefully preparing the ground for complete segregation of Negro troops from white troops in training camps by selecting and inducting only white draftees into the army until "camp facilities are available for Negro troops," was launched with the War Department on Monday, Dec. 23, by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The protest was made following the issuance of an order to local draft boards here on Monday by New York City's selective service headquarters, advising board members that only white draftees will be selected and inducted into the army under the first 1941 draft call until sometime during February, when facilities for Negro troops are expected to be ready. The order means that, regardless of number, Negro draftees will be passed over and only white draftees will be ordered to report for training during the present period.

We wouldn't be surprised if some of those Americans who were so valiantly defending the Supreme Court a few years ago,

### COTTON "RUSH"

SOME MONTHS ago National Cotton Week was observed. The retailers of America joined together in a great mass effort to stimulate sales of all manner of cotton products.

Now, in the opinion of John P. Nichols, managing director of the Institute of Distribution, an organization which represents America's principal non-grocery chain systems, special effort should be given to "pushing" cotton the year around.

That should be done, he said, in conjunction with a year round education program provided by the cotton industry itself. "Through the work of such a program," he added "a hard hitting effort should be provided, for example, to educate America to call for cotton when you buy; to encourage the development of worthy new cotton uses; to re-emphasize the miracle of cotton schools, in the public press and elsewhere—in short, to "sell" the story of cotton."

### GERMANS ON THE MOVE IN BALKANS



Reports from Budapest say that upward of 150,000 Nazi troops are passing into Slovakia and through Hungary to the southern border of Rumania (1). The movement may be intended to checkmate Russia, which is said to be preparing to occupy Noldavia up to the Siretul River (2). In this connection it is reported that German engineers are directing the construction of successive defense lines on the Pruth and Siretul Rivers and in the Carpathian Mountains. The Soviet apparently has closed the frontier at Galati (3). The Germans also may be preparing to go through Bulgaria to attack Greece. In the Greco-Italian hostilities the port of Valona (4) was reported to be again smashed by aerial bombs, and Greco snow men stormed heights at Klisura, taking 500 prisoners, most of them fresh Italian troops sent to halt the Greeks recently by Mussolini. Naples (5) was likewise raided by British, said to have been guided to their target by the non-blackened out Mt. Vesuvius towering 4,000 feet above the bay of Naples.

**EMPLOYMENT**  
Employment on United States farm declined approximately 15 percent during the month of November, less than the usual seasonal decline, reports the U. S. Agricultural Marketing Service.

The State College man suggests that where such conditions were noted in crops in 1940, farmers should plan their fertilization program for 1941 so as to eliminate this trouble again. He urges tobacco farmers, especially, to consider the effect that potash might have on the quality of their crop.

All freight cars, owned by the railroads if joined together on one track would make a train nearly 13,000 miles in length.

Regardless of our complaining, we have much to be thankful for in this great nation of peace and opportunity.

Turkish editor says Hitler advised ally to quit Albania.

Peak activity for 1941 is predicted by business editors.

U. S. sports flourished during 1940 as upsets abounded.

Army is developing shell to explode on hitting plane.

Regular army rolls reach 400,000, the highest since World War.

The scientists that are working to eliminate static from radio might get busy and see if they can eliminate the slop out of the programs.

Our favorite months for 1941: March, May, August and November. Can you figure it out?

**SPECIAL BARGAIN EACH SUNDAY AND MONDAY**

**DOUBLE FEATURE AND SERIAL**

**THREE - HOUR - SHOW**  
At The Regular Admission

**TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY**

"HONOLULU" --- with Robert Young  
Comedy—"A Mouse in a Million"

**5c--THURSDAY (Bargain Day)--10c**

**TWO FEATURES AND SHORT**  
"THE NIGHT HAWK"  
with Robert Livingston  
also  
"ROMANCE OF THE REDWOODS"  
with Chas. Bickford



North Carolina is playing its part in National Defense—tractors and terracing machines for AAA program. Thus, while the agricultural defense and Army tanks for military defense. For the past six years the State College Extension Service has organized and directed Soil Conservation Associations which operate heavy equipment to terrace land and control equipment. Farmers who terrace their land earn soil-building payments through the AAA program. Thus, while the soldiers operating the tank are practicing maneuvers which strengthen the Nation's armed defense, Tar Heel farmers are carrying on soil defense work by terracing more than 70,000 acres of land every year.

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