INTERNATIONAL COTILLION OUTSTANDING SUCCESS—The 4th annual International Cotillion of the National Council of Negro Women, sponsored in support of The Mary McLeod Bethune Education Fund, held at The Americana Hotel, New York City, on January 2, has been acclaimed one of the most successful social events of the season. The Cotillion presented 42 ladies from four continents and varying backgrounds. In top photo are seen some of them and their escorts for the event. From left, the young people are James Williams, St. Albans, N. Y., LaSandre Robinson, Monroe, La., Pamela Mitchell, India, USAF 1st Lt. Moss H. Kendrix, Jr., Washington, D. C., Doris Landrum, St. Louis, Mo., Brigitte Ballecker, France, and Aso Yarney, Ghana. In next grouping, Alvin Wilks, right, introduces Miss Dorothy Height, 2nd from right, NCNW president, and her party to youth at post-Cotillion breakfast-dance. From left are PRman Moss H. Kendrix, Washington, D. C., Miss Virita Lewis, New York City, Mrs. Daisy Lampkin, Pittsburgh, Pa., who is chairman of NCNW's Bethune Educational Fund, Miss Height and Mr. Wilks, who handled the Cotillion choreography with Mrs. Ada Fisher Jones, seen at lower right. Mrs. Lampkin, in box, introduces Arthur A. J. Weglein, center, president of Daggett and Ramsdell, Inc., a co-sponsor of the Cotillion from its inception, and Kendrix, a Cotillion vice chairman. Weglein had two daughters in the Cotillion and his son-in-law, George Valyn, wrote the music and lyrics for the debutant song, "Tonight's the Night," which was performed by Broadway singing star, Jimmy Randolph. Miss Martha G. Palmer, lower left, Cotillion executive director and Mrs. Ada Fisher Jones, right, flank Dr. Jeanne L. Noble, New York City, Miss Height, Miss Wilhelmina Adams, New York City, and Kendrix, during Cotillion reception.

Wilkins Says, Most Important Task of 1964 is Putting Names on the Nation's Voting Books

NEW YORK—For the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People "the most important basic task of 1964 is putting names on the voting books," Roy Wilkins, the Association's executive secretary, asserts in a memorandum dispatched to all state and local NAACP units throughout the country.

Every unit of the Association is called upon to begin its registration campaign now. "Do not wait until three weeks before election time," Mr. Wilkins admonishes.

Politicians pay close attention to any change in registration figures, the memorandum, sent out on Jan. 3, says. "By increasing registration totals early in the year, you may very possibly influence the policies of parties and candidates this year, not in 1965. You can influence voting records of congressmen, all of whom must be elected next November."

Moreover, Mr. Wilkins' call to action points out "with a built up registration, you will be ready next November to campaign for the defeat of all those who voted against the civil rights bill in Congress."

While not neglecting the South, the campaign will place "special emphasis on the under-registered northern cities and towns. There are at least a half-million, perhaps even a full million Negro citizens of voting age in the North who are not registered," the memorandum asserts.

"Under stimulus of the election year," the Wilkins' memorandum points out, "we should multiply many time our 1963 total of 82,733 new registrants by NAACP workers. In addition, 108,312 persons were qualified to register in Virginia alone by our drive to have them pay their poll tax."

In another memorandum to all NAACP units, Mr. Wilkins calls for an all-out effort in 1964 to surpass the peak year of 1963.

"NAACP units are pushing civil rights in the North and South, East and West, in Washington for the nation and in state capital and city councils elsewhere. We are working on jobs, housing, schools, due process of law, voting, public accommodations and all variations thereof. We use all methods. Now that we are on a higher level, let's keep climbing in 1964," Wilkins urges.

700-Acre Tennessee Farmer Helps Advise USDA on Wheat Policy

WASHINGTON, D. C.—William Currin, 700-acre Negro farmer of Brownsville, Tenn., who is a recent appointee to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Advisory Committee on Feed Grains and Wheat, attended his first meeting of the committee recently to help formulate recommendations for a wheat program.

Currin and 31 other members of the committee in attendance advised Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman to press for quick legislative enactment of a voluntary wheat program to avert a sizable drop in income from wheat.

Without new wheat legislation the 1964 crop support price will be about $1.25 a bushel, compared with this year's level of $1.82 or a total drop of some $600 million, the USDA estimates.

Currin, first colored farmer to serve on the Advisory Committee on Feed Grains and Wheat, holds a B.S. degree from Tennessee A and I State University where he has done further study toward a master's degree.

Before taking over the family farm, he taught vocational agriculture for seven years. His 700 acre farm includes 250 acres of corn and other grains, 100 acres of cotton, and 250 acres in pastures for his 200 head of beef cattle.

Last La. Parish Registers Fifteen

ST. JOSEPH, La. — The recent registration of 15 Negroes in Tensas Parish, ended an era in which some Louisiana parishes had no Negro registrants since 1902. Now at least some Negroes are registered in every parish.

Registration of the 15 Negroes was announced publicly by the registrar, J. H. Roberson and confirmed by CORE Field Secretary Ronnie Moore, who for over a year has coordinated CORE's voter registration campaign in southeastern Louisiana. The campaign recently was extended to Tensas Parish where Moore assigned several CORE Task Force workers.

P. F. Ellis, district deputy master of the Prince Hall Mason's grand lodge, was unlike the situation in West Feliciana parish where Rev. Joseph Carter was arrested and jailed overnight when he attempted to register last August. He finally did register on October 17 becoming the first Negro to do so since 1902, but he was tharetened by a group of whites as he entered the court house. Another Negro registrant, James Payne, was hit across the face with a rifle butt.

N. J. Physician Back in States From African Trip

DR. E. MAE McCARROLL, prominent physician of Newark, New Jersey, chairman of the Publication Committee of the National Medical Association (Journal of the NMA) has just returned from a month's tour of Africa. She was accompanied by her husband Robert E. Hunter and Dr. and Mrs. Warren Snyder.

Dr. McCarroll took time from her vacation to make an unofficial survey of medical conditions in connection with the National Medical Associtaion's project to assist with medical education in Africa, through its Scholarship Fund and other means.

Some of the points visited by Dr. McCarroll were: Dakar, Freetown, Lagos, Addis Ababa, Nairobi, Moshi, Kilimanjaro, Zanzibar, Khartoum (Sudan), and Cairo.

The National Medical Association is a predominately Negro organization composed of approximately 5,000 physicians. It will hold its 69th annual convention in Washington, D. C., August 2-6, 1964, at the Statler-Hilton Hotel and the International Inn.

NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY
ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as administrator of the estate of Galatia L. Taylor, deceased, late of Durham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at 2106 Fayetteville Street, on or before the 4th day of December 1965 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

This 4th day of January, 1964.

JAMES T. TAYLOR,
Administrator of
Galatia L. Taylor
O. O. Pearson, Attorney
Jan. 11, 18, 25; Feb. 1, 1964.

Meany Urges Inclusion of Fringe Benefits in Wage Determinations

WASHINGTON, D. C. — AFL-CIO President George Meany today urged inclusion of fringe benefits in wage determinations under the Davis-Bacon Act which apply to bidding on federal contracts.

In a letter to all members of the House, made public today Meany noted that when the Act was adopted in 1931, fringe benefits, such as health, welfare, insurance and pensions were rare.

"Today," he observed, "these fringe benefits are as much a part of the wage structure as the cash wage payment itself." He noted that there are presently 5,000 such programs in the building trades.

Meany urged that the proposed revisions to the Davis-Bacon Act embodied in HR 6041 be adopted without "irrevelant or crippling amendments."

An employer who does not pay the fringe benefits has an "unfair advantage," Meany declared, which can have an adverse effect on local wage rates and local community living standards.

The text of Meany's letter follows:

HR 6041, a bill to include fringe benefits in prevailing wage determinations under the Davis Bacon Act, is expected to be on the floor of the House of Representatives early in January. The AFL-CIO strongly supports this legislation, and I urge you to vote for HR 6041 without irrelevant or crippling amendments.

In 1931, when the Davis-Bacon law was enacted by Congress fringe benefits such as health, welfare, insurance and pension plans scarcely existed. There are now in the construction industry more than 5,000 health, welfare and pension funds covering more than 79 per cent of the building and construction trades workers and financed primarily by employer contributions. Today these fringe benefits are as much a part of the wage structure as the cash wage payment itself.

An employer who does not pay these fringe benefits clearly has an unfair advantage in bidding on federal construction contracts over a contractor who does provide such benefits for his workers. Updating the Davis-Bacon Act by including such fringe benefits in the prevailing wage determinations made by the Secretary of Labor is essential to protect local wage rates and local community living standards.

I urge you again to vote for HR 6041.

Credit Used In '63 to Improve Many Farms

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Some 230,000 rural families used credit from the Farmers Home Administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture in 1963 to improve their farming, provide themselves with better homes, and advance rural life.

About 16,000 more families received loans last year than in 1962, and an estimated 36,000 more than in 1958.

In addition to individual families, some 600 local water associations serving 175,000 rural people used Farmers Home credit during the year to improve their water supply.

Altogether, Farmers Home made or insured an estimated $677 million in loans during 1963, and repayments totaled $445 million.

The major part of the loan funds were used as follows: $122 million to enable 13,300 farm families and other rural residents to build or improve their homes; $266 million to 71,500 farmers to buy equipment, fertilizer, seed, feed, livestock and meet other operating needs; and $198 million to 13,000 farmers to buy farms of their own, or to enlarge or develop the farms they already owned.

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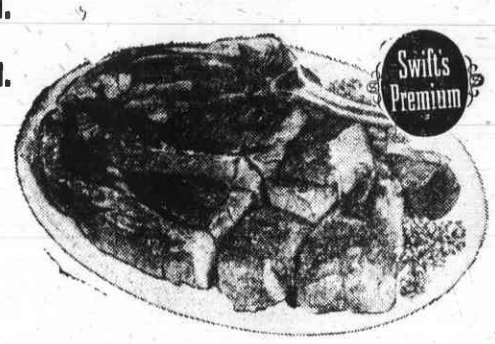

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