



ACCEPTS GIFT - Atlanta, Ga.: Mr. Lee B. Pinkerton, (r) vice president of White Laboratories, Inc. recently toured six southeastern colleges and universities to personally present each school a set of The Negro Heritage Library Books for the use of its students. At Morehouse College, Dr. Benjamin Mays, president, and Mrs. Jessie B. Eubanks, librarian, accepted the White Laboratories' gift on behalf of the Morehouse student body.

**President Johnson Says:
Minimum Wage Is
"Declaration Of Decency"**

WASHINGTON, D. C. - "This is another D-Day in our fight to help those in need," President Johnson said on Feb. 1, the day the minimum wage amendments became effective. In a meeting in the Cabinet Room of the White House, the President thanked "those who have worked so long and effectively to bring about passage of these amendments." Excerpts from the President's remarks follow:

To me this is another D-Day in our fight to help those in need. It is my humble pride as President to see that this declaration of decency has been made real in millions of lives and homes -- for as we meet here this afternoon, a new Minimum Wage has become effective in this country. It will mean a great deal to a great many people -- none of whom are here. It will help them to carry on.

Eight million workers, as Mr. Keenan has told you, have new benefits this afternoon -- for the first time since this Act was passed 28 years ago. One million more workers are going to get benefits next year.

The minimum rate for most workers -- those 30 million previously covered -- becomes, today, \$1.40 an hour. This still means less, for a year's work, than what we count as a poverty wage. But this brings minimum wages closer in line with minimum decencies than they have ever been before. An additional billion dollars will go, this year, into those pay envelopes where it is needed most -- and this will be for services rendered, for work performed.

If this means very small increases in prices -- that we have heard a good deal about --

and in costs -- and I believe it does mean increases in both -- the American people will accept this as a better answer than denying human beings a decent wage.

These are the workers that you rarely see, the workers that we all too often forget to acknowledge. They are the workers that make life a little more complete for everyone of us, everyday. They are the charwomen who clean our rooms after we are gone in the evening, through the night. They are the people who make our beds after we leave in the morning. They are the waitresses who get up early to give us coffee before we go to work, the hotel and the motel employees, the hospital service employees, the laundry workers that clean our clothes, the workers in the apparel trades that try to make us look presentable. And, for the first time, the farm workers -- several hundred thousand of them.

They are not here in the White House this afternoon, but those who have worked for them and fought for them are, the Members of Congress who could hear their voices and heeded their plea, the leaders of the workers in this country who had done so much to help the people of their own union, but decided to do something to help all people.

This is a great day for America. America is entitled to the feeling that it has done something very right and something very good.

So to you leaders of labor, particularly Secretary Wirtz who testified so long and so eloquently and so effectively, to you Members who hear him, all of you, in behalf of these workers, I say thank you for your efforts.

THE VETERAN'S CORNER

Feb. 12, 1790 - Anti-Salvory Memorium signed by Benjamin Franklin.

Feb. 12, 1809 - Abraham Lincoln, the Great Emancipator and 16th President of the United States, was born in Harding County, Kentucky.

Feb. 12, 1857 - Arkansas Gov. Elias N. Conway signed into law an act of the General Assembly expelling all freed Negroes and mulattoes from the State of Arkansas.

Feb. 12, 1865 - The Rev. Henry H. Garnett, pastor, 15th Street Presbyterian Church, Washington, D. C. became the first Negro minister to deliver a sermon in the U. S. House of Representatives.

Feb. 12, 1903 - Conference held in New York leading to the formation of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

Feb. 12, 1926 - Negro History Week initiated by Dr. Carter G. Woodson.

Feb. 13, 1760 - Richard Allen, founder of the African Methodist Episcopal Church was born in Maryland.

Feb. 13, 1817 - Frederick Douglass, statesman - abolitionist, was born a slave in Maryland.

Feb. 13, 1873 - Emmett J. Scott, secretary to Booker T. Washington and one-time secretary-treasurer of Howard University, was born.

Feb. 13, 1874 - James T. Carter, lawyer, president and general counsel of Southern Aid Life Insurance company, and vice president, Consolidated Bank and Trust company of Richmond, Va., was born in Richmond, Va.

Feb. 14, 1879 - Blanche K. Bruce, Negro Senator from Mississippi, presided over U. S. Senate.

Feb. 15, 1851 - Shadrach, a fugitive slave, was rescued from a Boston courtroom by abolitionists after a decision to return him to his master had been handed down.

Feb. 15, 1895 - George Schuyler, writer-columnist for the Pittsburgh Courier weekly newspaper, was born in Rhode Island.

Feb. 15, 1950 - Dr. George

W. White, physician-insurance executive, president, Federal Insurance Company of Washington, D. C. and vice president Richmond Beneficial Life Insurance Company, died in Richmond, Va.

Feb. 16, 1826 - C. L. Force, of Boston, published the first paper printed in Africa, the Liberatorian Herald.

Feb. 17, 1865 - The Ku Klux Klan was organized at Pulaski, Tenn.

Feb. 17, 1902 - Marian Anderson, famous contralto was born in Philadelphia, Pa.

Feb. 18, 1861 - Jefferson Davis was inaugurated president of the Southern Confederacy.

Feb. 18, 1959 - Chester S. Jackson became the first Negro president of the Buffalo Municipal Baseball Association, which originated in 1913 in Buffalo, N. Y.

Indians Hit Hardest By Unemployment

WASHINGTON - The extremely high unemployment rate among American Indians will be the subject of a conference with representatives of most of the Nation's Indian tribes and Federal and State officials in Kansas City on Feb. 15-16.

Secretary of Labor W. Willard Wirtz, who announced the conference, said that leaders from more than 200 tribes in 25 states will meet with government officials from nine Federal agencies and numerous State employment services to discuss ways of reducing the unemployment rate.

Unemployment for the American Indian currently stands at 60 percent; for the young Indian (21 years and under), the rate is 45 percent.

The conference, sponsored by the U. S. Employment Service, will bring about the largest known gathering of Indian tribes in the history of the United States.

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