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THE NATIONAL NEGRO WEEKLY

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE DARKER RACES

VOL. III., NO. 40.

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## Ten Colored Are Elected To The State Legislatures

Associated Negro Press.

Chicago, Nov. 17.—Gauged by his acquisition of new elective office the American Negro voter gained but little in the great campaign which has just closed. In many states from New York to California he was found striking out in an effort to work his way into the legislative councils of the states, but save in those districts where he was already entrenched, his success was entirely negligible. Second to his aspiration for office was his fight against segregation measures in which he was successful, and third was his effort to elect white candidates friendly to him. In this latter respect the returns show him to be not much better off than he was.

In Massachusetts and in California, two of the most widely separated states, the Negro vote registered most strongly against segregation. In Massachusetts it was against the segregation of Negroes in the departments at Washington. Negro voters took occasion to express their resentment against Butler at the polls for this evil which Coolidge overlooks. In California the segregation measures defeated were local issues.

### Ten Legislators

Colored America elected ten state legislators. Five in Illinois, two in Missouri, one in California and two in Nebraska. St. Louis also won a justice of the peace, as did Gary, Ind., and two constables must be checked to the credit of the Missouri town.

The election of 1926 demonstrates beyond question that Colored America has ceased to be influenced by sentiment of party, and henceforth must be reckoned with on accomplishments. If there were an opportunity for a genuine protest against Republican indifference and riding on a high horse, the Negro voter gave that protest at the ballot in the state of the nation where his votes count, and it has been in no uncertain terms.

In the states of Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri, New York, Massachusetts and Oklahoma there were enough Negroes who voted the Democratic ticket or remained from the polls by disgust and indifference, to have changed the results in favor of Democrats! Disgusted indifference did more among

## Catholics Hit Novel Of 'the Life On The Mississippi River

Pacific Coast News Bureau.

New York, Oct. 27.—65,000 members of the International Federation of Catholic Alumnae have a complaint demanding the elimination of seven pages of Edna Ferber's recent novel, "Show-Boat," wherein a covenant in Chicago is described as "a prison," and it is stated that "every lady on Clark street sends her daughter there."

Another complaint was recently filed by Tom Taggart, Democratic leader of Indiana in which he complained his name was used for the character of a gambler in the book. The name was changed in later editions.

### Pays Tribute to Negro.

According to Alice Nelson-Dunbar writing in the Washington Eagle, Miss Ferber "has apparently gone out of her way to pay tribute to the Negro spiritual; to the power of Negro music, to the debt of the American stage to the Negro element, to lovable and gracious Negro character, from the beautiful octoroon actress, Julia, to little Joe, the cook's helper."

Negroes than voting Democratic, but in all of the states mentioned, there were appreciable numbers who voted for the Democratic candidate for U.S. senator for personal reasons.

In the states of Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Pennsylvania, there were thousands of Colored voters who either remained away from the polls or voted for opposition candidates. Comments from these sections vary from a mild protest to a torrent of invectives about the "double dealing manner and false promises of the Republicans." While Republican Senators and Congressmen were elected from these states, they have plainly been placed on the defensive and if they hope to retain their prestige or, to be able to save the party in 1928, the days of "passing the buck" and "hide and seek" must give way to practical achievements and constructive legislation that reaches the common people, backbone of the republic. The Chicago Defender, the largest Negro newspaper came out strongly Democratic.

## CRISIS NEAR IN AFRICA SAYS MAX YERGAN

The natives of South Africa are facing the most difficult race problem of any people anywhere and from this country there is coming a challenge to us (the Negro of America) as it can to no other because of what we are. Upon these facts the leading colored foreign worker in the Y. M. C. A., Mr. Mr. Max Yergan, based his address to a fair sized audience at the Pine St. department last Sunday afternoon.

### Africans Like Ourselves

Mr. Yergan, who has just returned from a five years' organization campaign in South Africa, spoke in earnestness and hopefulness concerning fathers of the American Negro. He impressed it upon his audience at the very outset not to think of Africa as a continent of darkness and ignorance abounding with heathen, but to think of it as a land of men and women just like ourselves, who have seen the light of a new day and are struggling against great odds to progress.

### Much Work to be Done.

The speaker told of his experience on first going to Africa of the discrimination and humiliation that he and his wife were subjected to, of the suspicions of the controlling governments who feared for foreigners to enter the land with any intentions of attempting to raise the natives to a new order of advancement. But he went on to paint a picture of the success of his work during his stay in South Africa. Among the achievements, 35 Associations were set up, having 1000 members and over a thousand teachers. Mr. Yergan jokingly told of making a trip of 3,500 miles on one occasion to set up an association. These associations, as expounded by the speaker, are aiding the natives and giving them a real consciousness, their purpose being threefold:

1. To spread Christianity among the people.
2. To awaken a social vision among the natives.
3. The opening up of a more liberal attitude on the part of governments in interpreting and performing their duties toward the people.

## Race Writers To Publish Monthly

New York, Nov. 19.—The N.A.A.C.P. is informed that a group of young colored writers are planning to publish a quarterly magazine to be called "Fire!!" The Board of Editors includes Langston Hughes, Zora Neale Thurston, Aaron Douglas, Gwendolyn Bennett, John Davis, Wallace Thurman and Bruce Nugent. The new magazine is to be issued from 314 West 138th Street, New York. The first number is announced for publication on November 22nd.

### Facing Crisis.

South Africa is facing an almost inevitable crisis, Mr. Yergan stated. Three reasons were given for the speaker forecasting of likely great difficulties. There are only about a million and a half white persons in this country, he declared, while there are five million and a half Negroes. This minority of number is leading the whites to resort to unjust tactics to keep the black men subordinate, which methods will sooner or later lead to conflicts. In this connection three measures opposing the natives were spoken of: 1. The color-bar bill which restricts the natives from competing with the whites in the trades; 2. A proposed bill to farther limit the voting power of the natives. These injustices have resulted in the birth of a group desirous of justice and fair play for all, a group perplexed and confused desirous of improving their home life, village life, educational, social, religious and political standing, and it is with this group that we are working in accomplishing the task of avoiding this crisis and aiding the Africans to progress, the organizer said. The exploitations of the rich resources of the

Mr. Yergan, who returns to Africa next July to continue his work, stated that he will return with strong confidence of helping the Africans to surmount their problems. He told of a governmental conference he attended in Belgium with five natives who accompanied him from South Africa, and of the favorable consideration given them. This conference was held just before he sailed for America. Mr. Yergan also told of the Y. M. C. A. being invited to be one of the co-operative agents of the governments in South Africa in a joint educational program.