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RACE RELATIONS GROUP CITES TEN-YEAR GAINS

Atlanta, Ga., Jan.—A decrease during the past ten years of eighty-eight per cent in the annual lynching record is cited as obvious evidence of improving interracial conditions in the South, in a statement just made public by the Commission on Interracial Co-operation on the completion of its first ten years of work. The steady decline in the number of lynchings from 83 in 1919 to eleven in 1928 and ten in the year just ended, the Commission considers a significant and encouraging index of changing public sentiment.

Another evidence of progress which the Commission counts equally important, though less spectacular, has been the rapid increase of educational facilities for Negroes during the last decade. This has taken the form of larger public appropriations, longer school terms, better prepared and better paid teachers, construction of thousands of modern school houses, multiplication of high schools and more liberal support of normal and collegiate institutions. This has come about, the Commission believes, not only as a result of the South's increasing prosperity, but even more because of a growing public confidence that education for Negroes makes for efficiency and good citizenship just as in the case of white people.

Other important gains of the decade cited in the statement are a decided improvement in Negro health and a longer life span; the better support of Negro welfare agencies through public appropriations and community budgets; the enlistment of the important religious groups, particularly the organized church women in programs of inter-racial study and betterment; the introduction of the study of race relations into hundreds of colleges and high schools; the publication of many excellent books and magazine articles by and about Negroes; the mobilization of several thousand men and women in inter-racial committees which are working for a larger measure of justice and opportunity for the South's Negro population. The statement accords to the newspapers of the South a large measure of credit for these gains.

The Commission on Interracial Co-operation, composed of a hundred Southern men and women, was organized in Atlanta just after the World War in the effort to obviate the danger of wide-spread race conflict which was so acute at that time. To this end it set up eight hundred inter-racial committees across the South, through which misunderstandings were cleared up and confidence was restored. These committees then entered upon the effort to discover and remedy conditions of neglect and injustice affecting Negroes, and have achieved results that have attracted favorable attention throughout America and abroad, leading to the organization of similar committees in many other sections of the country and in South Africa. The Commission is an incorporated body with headquarters in Atlanta and its officers are: President, W. C. Jackson, of Greensboro; Vice President, R. R. Moton, of Tuskegee Institute and R. H. King, of

WILLIAM PICKENS TO EDIT GERMAN PAPER'S NEGRO ISSUE

New York, Jan. 24—William Pickens, Field Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue, has been asked to edit an All-Negro Number of *Friedenfront*, a publication in Berlin, Germany, which will devote that number to contributions from Negroes in all parts of the world.

Articles are to be written for the number in English, German, French and Spanish, the editors undertaking to translate all articles from the other languages into German.

Like its twin publication *Deutsche Zukunft*, the *Friedenfront* devotes itself to the cause of international peace. The invitation to Mr. Pickens is an outcome of his lectures in Germany last July and August, one German leader in Frankfurt remarking that the Negro delegate at the Congress spoke the language of the German Academy of Literature.

This All-Negro Number of *Friedenfront* will be the first such number of any publication in Europe. All articles and poems intended for this number should be sent to William Pickens, 69 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

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