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THE NATIONAL NEGRO WEEKLY  
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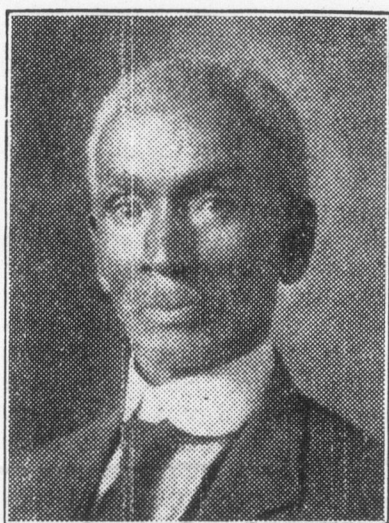
## Second Contest For the Negro Music Composers

Philadelphia, Pa., January (Special Correspondence) — Rodman Wanamaker of this city has again offered \$1000 in prizes for composers of the Negro Race, the offer, as was the case last year, being made through the Robert Ogden Association, an organization composed of Negro Employees of the John Wanamaker Store, Philadelphia. This is the second offer of the kind made by Mr. Wanamaker, who inaugurated a similar plan last year, the results being some excellent compositions in a great variety of forms. This year, however, Mr. Wanamaker has made several radical modifications in the offer as compared with last year, by increasing the prizes in some instances and lowering the numbers of classifications. The National Association of Negro Musicians, Inc., is working with the Robert Curtis Ogden Association in making public the terms of the contest. This was also done last season and the names of the winners of the prizes were announced at the National Convention of that organization last August in St. Louis.

This year, there are four classifications instead of five as was the case in the first contest, with three prizes in each class, making twelve in all. The four this year are as follows: Class 1, A composition for orchestra; Class 2, A love song for one voice with accompaniment, optional with the composer; Class 3, A group for miscellaneous works for one or more instruments; Class 4, A composition for band. In all of these classifications the widest possible latitude is allowed the composers in all respects as to the instruments or voices for which they shall write.

The compositions intended for Class 1 must be a work scored for full orchestra, that is, an orchestra containing as a minimum number of instruments, the full complement of wood wind, brass and string parts of a symphony orchestra, although extra instruments may be used at the option of the composer. It may be a symphony, a symphonic poem or an overture, etc., and may be in

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Mr. Anthony Banks was constable in Essex County for 44 years and is now in his 88th year. His son Walter L. Banks, now occupies the position.

## Calls Disfranchisement A National Scandal

New York, Jan. 9.—Speaking yesterday in the Mother A.M.E. Zion Church, before the Annual Mass meeting of the N.A.A.C.P., representative Holden Tinkham of Massachusetts assailed the "gross and lawless disfranchisement of the Negro voter in the South" as being a "national scandal without parallel in any other civilized country."

Mr. Tinkham, in an address during which he minced no words, asserted that "this Negro disfranchisement is more of a fraud upon the whole country than it is upon the Negro, making the national elections 'half constitutional and half unconstitutional.'"

This condition, Representative Tinkham asserted, can no longer continue "if the Negro will assert such rights and power as he possesses by refusing to vote for a party which unconstitutionally and lawlessly allows this disfranchisement. There can be no double standard of constitutional enforcement. The political morality of one state of the Union must be the political morality of all the states of the Union. The very essence of law and order is the enforcement of the fundamental law of the land, which in the United States is the Constitution."

## Meets New Step In Garry School Fight

John W. Russell, President of the Gary, Indiana Branch of the N.A.A.C.P. telegraphed the National office on Jan. 10th, that all but three of the colored children in attendance at Emerson High School had been dismissed. This is a new step taken by the Gary school authorities to enforce segregation in the High School, after the defeat of the city authorities by the injunction case filed by the N.A.A.C.P. compelling them to rescind the ordinance which appropriated \$15,000 of the city funds for the building of a separate high school for colored pupils.

The students who were notified by Supt. Wm. A. Wirt of their transfer to the Virginia St. school were advised by Edward McKinley Bacoy, attorney for the Gary branch, to present themselves at the Emerson School instead of the Virginia St. school. That if they refused, appropriate legal steps would be taken. Upon their being refused, five writs of mandamus were filed by Attorney Bacoy on behalf of the parents of the dismissed children, the citizens of Gary and the local branch. Following a request from the branch, the National office has asked Mr. R. L. Bailey of Indianapolis to proceed to Gary to assist in fighting the cases which will come up for hearing on Monday, Jan. 16th.

## LILLIAN GISH JOINS N.A.A.C.P.

Miss Lillian Gish, the great movie star, who attended the tea given in honor of Mr. and Mrs. C. Darrow some weeks ago by the Women's Committee of One Hundred, auxiliary of the N.A.A.C.P., has sent to the Association her membership fee of ten dollars. Miss Gish sent her membership in a letter addressed to Miss Carolyn Downs, a member of the Women's Committee of One Hundred. The letter says in part: "The enclosed cheque goes to you with my very kindest regards and holiday greetings, together with every good wish for the success of the N.A.A.C.P."

## High Honor Is Awarded Davis

New York, Jan. 6.—The city of Cleveland has given one of its highest offices, membership on the Civil Service Commission, to a colored man, Harry E. Davis, who has served four terms as a member of the Ohio Legislature, winning the respect of the entire electorate by his brilliant career in office.

Clippings from the leading Cleveland dailies, received at the Offices of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, of whose Board of Directors Mr. Davis is a member, show that the entire press of Cleveland has been virtually unanimous in commending the election of Mr. Davis.

Speaking of the election, the Cleveland Plain Dealer is an editorial says in part:

"Harry E. Davis has been one of the leaders of the Cuyahoga County delegation in the Legislature through several terms. As representative and committee chairman he has invariably given to his work thoughtful consideration. With experience came increased efficiency as a legislator. Barring a political upheaval, not often to be expected in this county, Davis might have continued indefinitely as a member of the General Assembly.

"The Civil Service Commission needs members who believe in the merit system, who will do everything possible to realize the hopes of the authors of the charter that the municipal government might be divorced from spoils, who will try with all earnestness to restore to public confidence the idea of an administrative service based on the ability of each appointee to perform the duties of which he is chosen. Civil Service in Cleveland has reached a point where this new conception is particularly needed.

"The Plain Dealer's commendation of the Davis election is based on the belief that the new member will be this kind of a Civil Service Commissioner."

The Plain Dealer's account of Mr. Davis' political record states that "he has long been recognized as one of the most capable members of the General Assembly. He has served twice as chairman of the Codes Committee, one of the most

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