

The Dawn of Tomorrow

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NAACP Convention To Hear Stassen

NEW YORK, JUNE 11—Harold E. Stassen, Mutual Security Administrator and former Governor of Minnesota, will address the closing session of the 44th annual convention of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in St. Louis, June 23—28.

Mr. Stassen replaces Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam who will be unable to attend because of participation in the 250th anniversary of John Wesley, founder of Methodism, in Philadelphia on the same day of the NAACP meeting. "My regret is matched by my disappointment," the Methodist prelate wire upon discovering the conflict in the date.

Sharing the platform with Mr. Stassen at the Sunday afternoon session on June 28, will be Walter White, NAACP executive secretary. Music at this session will be by the Mariners, popular and internationally famous quartet of the Columbia Broadcasting System.

The keynote address will be delivered at the opening night session on Tuesday, June 23, by Dr. Channing H. Tobias, chairman of the Association's board of directors. Welcome addresses will be delivered by Mayor Raymond Tucker and Howard B. Woods, city editor, St. Louis Argus.

Others to address the public evening meetings of the convention include Patrick E. Gorman, secretary-treasurer of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen, AFL; Thurgood Marshall NAACP special counsel; Archibald Carey, Jr., member, City Council of Chicago; Senator W. Stuart Symington; and Paul R. Williams, winner of the 38th Spingarn Medal.

Day sessions of the convention will be devoted to internal organizational business and to workshops on civil rights, the legal program, health church co-operation, labor relations, the legislative program, employment, housing, and public relations.

CENTRAL STATE COLLEGE CITES WHITE AS DEFENDER OF RIGHTS.

WILBERFORCE, Ohio, June 11—Cited for his work as a "public-minded citizen, author, pioneer in the defense of the rights of man, investigator and unbiased reporter of man's injustice to man," Walter White, executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, today received the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from Central State College.

Mr. White delivered the commencement address to the graduating class which, for the first time, included a white student.

This is the third honorary degree conferred upon the NAACP executive. Previously, he has received degrees from Howard University and his alma mater, Atlanta University.

In today's citation, Dr. Charles H. Wesley, president of the college said that the NAACP's "work in the areas of civil and human rights has become, under your leadership of 35 years, a challenge to all Americans."

FLORIDA ELKS AID NAACP

DRIVE FOR NEW MEMBERS

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. June — The Florida Elks will undertake to enroll half of the 10,000 new members the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is seeking in that state, Robert P. Stewart, the order's civil liberties commissioner for Florida, has informed Robert W. Saunders, NAACP field secretary for the state.

"As part of the civil liberties project, I am asking all Elk lodges to co-operate with the NAACP officials in this state by raising 5,000 members," Mr. Stewart said.

"Since the civil liberties program of the IBPOEFW is dedicated to the uplifting of Negroes both economically and culturally," he asserted, "I see no reason why all of the members of our organization should not enroll and become active in the NAACP branches throughout the state."

PRESIDENT ASKED TO END

NAVY SCHOOL JIM CROW

New York, June—President Dwight D. Eisenhower has been urged to order an immediate end to segregation in Navy yards and in schools for children of Army personnel on military posts. A telegram asking this action was made public here today by Walter White, executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The telegram to the President cited a resolution passed by the NAACP board of directors at its regular monthly meeting on June 8 expressing its concern about the failure of the Eisenhower administration to implement its anti-segregation pledges.

"The board of directors of the NAACP is shocked to learn that the Navy Secretary is continuing racial segregation in the yards at Charleston and Norfolk," the telegram, sent on June 9, said. "We strongly urge that this outright defiance of the national policy which you have so clearly reaffirmed be corrected and that the Secretary of the Navy be instructed to end racial segregation in all activities and establishments under its jurisdiction."

Further, the telegram said, "We are gravely concerned that the Department of the Army is actually making new arrangements with local communities to continue segregation in schools on military posts, despite your statement that such practices cannot be legally or morally justified. We respectfully urge that you order the ending of segregation in all schools on federal property beginning in the fall term and that all contracts with local authorities that permit segregation in schools on federal property be abrogated."

Struggle In Kenya

By FORREST JOHNSTON
(Courtesy The Christian Science Monitor)

The Kenya economy is such at the moment that, though he may do clerical work in Nairobi, the African lives in the reserve where he has his own hut and his own bit of land and his own family. To be seen talking to a European on the street today automatically brands him as the object of a terrorist attack sooner or later.

The smile that has always been on that lad's face since I first knew him three years ago, today fails to hide his confusion and his resentment. And it is toward the European in general that the resentment is directed. He is like all Kikuyu—and many other tribesmen too, a prospective if not an active worker with the criminal Mau Mau movement.

The fault seems not entirely his; nor does it seem entirely that of the European.

The trouble in Kenya is basically a struggle of humanity for recognition as humanity. It is a struggle in which the much-criticized Kenya Government is in about the same position as the much-criticized United Nations. It can do all it likes, but it cannot escape from the neutrality of the white settler. And it cannot pass a law compelling the mentally adolescent Africans, newly and vehemently aware of their manhood, to realize that a nation is not built overnight.

The government can say it has done and is still doing everything that could possibly be demanded of it for the material welfare of the African, and considerably more than could reasonably be expected.

10-Year Development

Kenya's total budget for 1953 (before the Mau Mau emergency made changes necessary) was \$53,000,000. Of this \$2,300,000 came from direct taxation of the African (about \$2.50 per male adult); \$12,600,000 came from direct taxation of the non-African; and \$27,000,000 was to be raised by indirect taxation, to which the African contribution would be negligible. The African likewise makes no contribution to the income from other sources. The total white population of Kenya is 30,000.

Yet, in 1953, the government is spending \$3,000,000 on African education alone. Besides this, it is spending another \$14,000,000 on social welfare.

The country is in the middle of a 10-year development plan which so far has resulted in the training and recruitment of 950 agricultural specialists available to give free advice to the African farmer; the virtual eradication of the two big cattle maladies which used to take a great toll among African herds; the clearing of several thousand square miles of land formerly useless because of tsetse fly infestation.

Eleven hundred storage dams and 200 drilled wells have removed the fear of drought famine for thousands of Africans, and the introduction of new cash crops has assured the African farmer of an existence considerably above the mere subsistence level which he knew before the European came to Kenya.

The much-disputed White Highlands (12,000 square miles out of the country's 224,960), which were never used for anything except grazing by the nomadic Masai (not the Kikuyus), are now being cultivated by Europeans with the help of the "squatter" labor, so providing homes for far more Africans than they ever did before. And the Africans there are protected in just about every way possible from exploitation.

Much is being done for the Africans because they are Africans. But little is being done because they are humans.

The fact is, however, the African is pathetically human. His reasoning power is so devastatingly logical as to be mistaken occasionally for senseless ingratitude. His sensitivity to atmosphere is as keen as that of a child, and he is fiercely proud.

Subconsciously he resents everything that is implied in the acceptance of gratuities, whether they be on the shilling scale or on the scale of million-dollar government projects. He suspects the motives of people who spend what are to him fabulous sums on people whom they show no intention of ever allowing into their homes or their hotels.

It is unfortunate, too, that it is "having a drink" that is the European habit that the educated African tries to emulate. He feels that this emulation alone should give him access to every hotel in the colony.

Many Are Educated

The Europeans guard the sanctity of their social meeting places with unyielding vigor. They should no more be expected to eat with the Africans in the hotels, they say, than they should be expected to eat with their African servants at home.

It is a generalization they repeat so often they believe it is sound. But it does not take into account the fact that in Kenya of 1953 there are Oxford-educated Africans, and there are Africans in administrative positions that are considerably above the servant class.

But there is another side to that story, too. Almost as arrogant as the average European in Kenya is the group of Africans who have gathered the conviction from well-meaning politicians who fly out here every now and then, that they should be accepted everywhere, just as they are, and just because they are Africans.

These have the notion that nothing drastic should be done to fight Mau Mau because its perpetrators and abettors are Africans.

When I talk with my discontented African friends, their reaction is as I expected—an admission that more than the color of one's skin enters into the question. Then they repeat what they have said so often before: "Why will the European not sit down and talk to us about these things? We could understand if we were talked to instead of being preached at or ignored altogether."

I believe they could and would and are anxious to do just that. That, it seems, is the clue which if followed would result in the elimination of whatever form the successor movement to Mau Mau shall take.

Washington Restaurants Bow To Court Ruling Mitchel Reports

WASHINGTON, June 11 — The United States Supreme Court ruling banning the exclusion of Negroes from restaurants in the District of Columbia "appears to be working out as it should in the cauldron of the world's greatest democracy," Clarence Mitchell, director of the Washington Bureau of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People said today on the basis of personal experience and reports received from various parts of the city.

Meanwhile, the Washington Restaurant Association advised its members to comply with the decision. Robert J. Wilson, the WRA executive secretary, announced.

The unanimous decision of the Court, handed down on June 8, became effective on June 10. The Court upheld the validity of the so-called lost civil rights laws passed by the District Legislative Assembly in 1872 and 1873 and long unused. The laws were re-discovered by the late Charles E. Houston, in 1947. Mr. Houston was chairman of the NAACP's national legal committee.

The case on which the Court ruled originated in 1950 when three Negroes were refused service by one of the Thompson restaurants. Suit was brought against the company by the District corporation counsel. The U.S. Court of Appeals held the laws inapplicable in a five to four decision.

On appeal to the Supreme Court the Justice Department filed a brief on behalf of the U.S. Government asking that the statutes be held applicable. In his comment, Mr. Mitchell said that "President Eisenhower, Attorney-General Herbert Brownell and the District of Columbia Commissioners deserve high praise for the effective manner in which they have put the executive branch of the government on record in support of no segregation in Washington restaurants."

Previously, in New York, Thurgood Marshall, NAACP special counsel, expressed "gratification" at the Supreme Court ruling. "While we will know the full reach of the decision only after having opportunity to study carefully the opinion," he asserted, "this decision marks another significant achievement in the drive to which the resources of the NAACP are committed—the complete elimination of segregation and discrimination in the United States."

RESTORE TVA FUNDS

WALTER WHITE URGES

New York—Protesting the proposed slash in the appropriation for the Tennessee Valley Authority, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People today sent telegrams to Senator Styles Bridges, Chairman, Senate Appropriations Committee, and to Representative John Taber, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee.