

## NAACP AFTER A MILLION MEMBERS

New York, Jan. 16—Setting an all-time high goal of one million members under the slogan "Make It a Million", the NAACP has announced the dates of its annual nationwide Membership Campaign to cover the months of April, May and June.

In making the announcement, the NAACP expressed confidence that the goal would be attained, although it represents a virtual doubling of the membership of 535,000 in 1946. Justifying this confidence is the fact that each year since the Nationwide Campaign idea was inaugurated 3 years ago, in the spring of 1944, the Association's growth has been extraordinary. When it closed its books at the end of 1942 the NAACP had slightly more than 100,000 members, organized into over three hundred units. In 1943, the figure jumped to 250,000, then in the next years to 300,000, 400,000 and finally, more than half a million last year. Correspondingly, the number of branches increased until they reached a figure of 1,497 in 1946, including Youth Council and College Chapter units.

Commenting on the ambitious goal for this year Walter White, executive secretary, NAACP, stated:

"A goal of one million members of the NAACP in 1947 is modest if one looks at the tasks which lie ahead in winning full freedom for the Negro. In the light of the accomplishments during the year just ended, it is conservative. Establishment by President Truman of a national Civil Rights Commission, the acquittal of 24 of the 27 defendants tried in 1946 arising out of the Columbia, Tennessee disorders, the verdict of the United States Supreme Court in the Irene Morgan case and other real milestones which were passed show what real organization, experience and public confidence can accomplish.

"Despite the Ku Klux Klan, the Columbians, Bilbo and all the evils with which we have to contend, we have great allies and great hope. Endorsement of the NAACP by the CIO and the support which other Americans, North and South, white and colored, have given the NAACP in the past makes us confident that the goal of one million will be reached. We believe that we shall have the continued support of all Americans who believe in justice and know no color line in achieving this goal. Then we shall really go to town in winning further victories."

### COLLEGE PRESIDENT TAKES JIM CROW RAILROAD BEFORE COMMERCE COMMITTEE.

Washington, D.C., Jan. 23rd —Attorney for the NAACP, representing Dr. Benjamin E. Mays, distinguished educator and president of Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia, carried the college head's complaint against the Southern Railway to the entire Interstate Commerce Commission in this city on Monday, January 9th. Dr. Mays filed his complaint against the railroad after a trip between Atlanta and New York during which he was subjected to "unique discrimination" in one of the company's dining cars. In addition to the complaint, Dr. Mays is seeking \$2500 in damages, following the refusal of the railroad to serve him in the dining car.

Since the complaint was filed the railroad claims that its dining car regulations have been amended. According to the company's claims it is now setting aside one table in the dining car for the exclusive use of colored passengers, the rest of the car to be operated exclusively for the use of whites. The so-called Negro table is to be next to the pan-

try and kitchen portion of the train, the section usually avoided by passengers because of the excessive heat and discomfort. The railroad will install an "office" in this "section" for the steward with a cash register and other necessities.

It was pointed out in the arguments by NAACP attorneys Thurgood Marshall, Robert L. Carter and Spottswood Robinson, III, that this case comes under the principles of the Irene Morgan case; and that the segregation regulation of the railway, passed in the light of state statutes which required the separation of the races, was invalid; and that the new regulation failed to satisfy the requirement of the Interstate Commerce Act which forbade undue preferences and unjust discrimination.

### TREASURY DEPARTMENT AT WASHINGTON

Dear Fellow American:

It is more than five years since the enemy attacked us and brought us into the greatest of all wars. During the war we saved to win the war. We put hundreds of billions into the winning of it, for we could not afford to lose.

A year ago our national debt stood at 278 billion dollars. During 1946 your treasury reduced this to \$259 billion. That debt represents the pooled strength of our savings that Americans, spurred by patriotism and self-interest, loaned to the great corporation which belongs to us all—the United States of America. We will draw back our principal and interest according to the amount each of us lent. But we all are responsible for paying that interest, paying off the public debt.

This nation is a mighty economic organization. During 1946, individuals were paid \$164 billion of income. They spent about \$120 billion on the consumer goods and services available, and, after paying taxes, put about \$18 billion into savings in all forms. They put \$7.4 billion into U.S. Savings Bonds alone.

Now we face another critical year of postwar adjustment, during which we may hope to see the price rise stopped. We can stop it only if we continue to save instead of spending our dollars for still scarce, high-priced goods. Price and rationing controls are off, except on rent and a few items. In a free country like ours, we can rely upon the wisdom and restraint of the people to defend our national economic security as decisively as we defended our national freedom.

This is a challenge to all leaders of public opinion, like yourself. It is a program in which we must practice the best of our democracy. All citizens of all races, colors and creeds have a common interest and a common stake in it. Each of us can lay out his program to fit his economic size, and put his surplus into U.S. Savings Bonds, Series E, F, or G, for the future, when dollars will buy more and those who invest in these bonds will have more dollars to buy the good things of life.

The Savings Bond program has become the American way of conserving money for worthwhile ends: the education of children, a new home, a farm, better equipment for living, a retirement income to supplement Social Security.

I am asking you to be a lighthouse among our people, to guide their savings into this safest of havens. Set an example, yourself. Tell those who look to you for advice that the Bond way is the best way to security. Let us work harder, produce more, save more in 1947 — for work, production and thrift are the only answers to our postwar problems.

WILLIAM PICKENS

Director, Interracial Section  
Canadian Savings Bonds are the best and surest investment for all Canadians.

### SEGREGATION OF PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD EMPLOYEES ENDED BY SCAD RULING ON NAACP CASE

New York, Jan. 23rd — Segregation of Negro employees of the Pennsylvania Railroad in locker rooms with inferior facilities has been discontinued through the action of the New York State Commission Against Discrimination, upon investigation of a complaint filed with it by the NAACP.

Following the investigation of a complaint filed by the NAACP for Thomas J. Byrd, a Pennsylvania Railroad employee, on July 24, 1946, charging that he had been discriminated against in the conditions of employment by the segregation of lockers on the basis of race and color in violation of the Law Against Discrimination, Elmer A. Carter, Commissioner of SCAD, notified Mr. Byrd that future locker assignments would be made on the basis of seniority. In a letter to Mr. Byrd, Mr. Carter reported that the complaint had been adjusted as follows:

"Following the notification of the Pennsylvania Railroad of the finding of probable cause for crediting the allegations in the complaint, a conference was held with the officials of the Railroad in order to eliminate the unlawful employment practice, in accordance with the terms of the Law (Against Discrimination).

"The officials of the Pennsylvania Railroad were completely co-operative with the Commission and agreed to institute assignment to the locker rooms on a new basis, that of seniority. This has been done. The Pennsylvania Railroad has furnished the Commission with a copy of the locker assignments which have been made on a seniority basis and has assured the Commission that length of service will be the determining factor in the future assignment of lockers."

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