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THE NATIONAL NEGRO WEEKLY
DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE DARKER RACES

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ACTOR RETURNING TO HOME TOWN

"The Lawd" in Green Pastures Will
Present Marc Connelly Play
Here

When Richard B. Harrison, 70-year old star of The Green Pastures pilots his rusky troupe into this city late this October there to present the Marc Connelly play, the occasion will be a homecoming—after 50 years—for the elderly actor.

It was in London, of fugitive slave parents, that "the Lawd" was born on September 28, 1864. There, as a youth, he sold newspapers, and upon the death of his father, became the sole support of his mother and three other children. Eventually, making his way to Detroit while still in his teens, he was befriended by Edward Weitzel, a newspaper man of that city. Mr. Weitzel arranged for him to study under the best available dramatic teachers. During this period he supported himself in a limited variety of ways open to him. Like another distinguished member of his race, Roland Hayes, he was at one time a hotel bell-boy.

Successively a train porter, pullman car waiter and jack-of-all-trades around a Chicago police station, Harrison continued his studies, finally in 1892, at the age of 28, making his platform debut. For years thereafter he toured the southern United States and sections of Canada on Chautauqua and Lyceum circuits, delivering readings in tents, churches and schools. About ten years ago he accepted a faculty position with the Agricultural and Technical College of Greensboro, N.C., where he remained until the opportunity to play "the Lawd" came to him five years ago.

Although the Green Pastures has twice been presented in Toronto and was enthusiastically acclaimed on both occasions, it was not until a week ago that the producer, Laurence Rivers, was able to arrange for the presentation in London, permitting "the Lawd" to return home. And so, on Monday, October 29, the white-haired benevolent old gentleman, now world famous, after having portrayed the deity more than 1500 times on stages from Massachusetts to California and from Toronto to Texas, will, at last, have an opportunity to appear before the folks back home.



AMAZING TORONTO VICTOR

ABOVE is shown Sam Richardson, grinning 15-year-old Toronto school-boy, who captured the broad jump for Canada at the British Empire games in London, Eng., yesterday. The colored sensation topped the greatest jumpers in the Empire with a leap of 23 feet 6 1/2 inches. It was an amazing feat for one so young. Richardson will likely be a member of the Canadian school-boy track team which will visit Australia this fall.

Night Comes Walking

By Esther Popel

Night comes walking out our way
In a velvet gown.
Soft she steps to music gay,
As only lovely ladies may,
While hidden cricket pipers play
In Ardwick Towne.

And in her hair, wind-tossed an free,
A million stars are tucked away—
The glint of silver carelessly
Encrusting polished ebony—
A true coquette and bold is she,
This lady gay!

The gleam of laughter in her eyes
While low she bends o'er growing things,
Is caught by rosy fireflies
Who flit about her, fall and rise
Like stars gone crazy in the skies
On magic wings!

Night treads softly out our way
In her sable gown,
Holds her breath while babies pray,
Chuckles, seeing love at play,
Then with Down she slips away,
In Ardwick Towne!

THE ALPHAS GIVE \$4000 FOR UPLIFT

Fund Goes for Foundation to Help
In Racial Causes

CHICAGO, Ill. — (ANP) — The special convention of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity held here August 19-22 for the purpose of defining the aims of its Education Foundation revealed the determination of this group of college men to come to grips with the most pressing problems of the day.

Most significant was the appropriation of \$3,625 for the work of this foundation during the years 1934-35. Of this amount \$2,300 was allotted to scholarships and fellowships alone.

The foundation has in addition the duties of studying the various federal agencies, such as the PWA the AAA, and the FERA to discover the ways by which Negroes may obtain the maximum benefits from them, of seeking to raise the level of scholarship among Negro students, of obtaining equitable educational facilities in the middle Atlantic States where colored students are denied admission to white land grant colleges and of encouraging Negroes to exercise their right of suffrage and to break down the barriers which exclude them from this right.

The dominant note of the convention was the conviction that the interests of college men and women are inextricably interwoven with those of the race who have not been granted the same opportunities. Consequently appropriations were made for such organizations as the Joint Committee on National Recovery and the N.A.A.C.P. addition the fraternity has taken out a life membership in the Association for the study of Negro life and history. In all, the fraternity will spend during the coming two years more than four thousand dollars for education and for advancing the political and economic interests of the race.

The convention was the guest of Theta and Xi Lambda chapters of Chicago which has an active membership of more than 150 college men. Attorney Sydney Brown was the chairman of the committee of the special convention where the fraternity elaborated a program which it is believed, establishes a high watermark in the serious endeavors of college fraternities.

DOCTORS TAKE NEW ACTION RE PROGRESS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — (ANP) — The 40th annual session of the National Medical Association which has just been closed at Nashville, Tenn., is in many respects one of the most outstanding sessions in the whole history of the organization. For the first time in many years and despite the effects of the depression, the association has paid debts old and new of over \$1600 and is entirely out of the red and has a small balance to begin another year's work. This outstanding example of hard work, resulting in a successful issue, has been due very largely to the fine organization work of last year's president, Dr. M. O. Bousfield of Chicago, General Secretary C. A. Lanon of Brownsville, Pa. and the new president of the association, Dr. J. H. Hale of Nashville. These three stalwarts were ably assisted by Dr. Geo. W. Bowles of York, Pa., chairman of the executive board and Dr. R. T. Belsaw of Mobile, Ala., secretary of the executive board and Dr. John A. Kennedy, editor of the Journal of the Association, Dr. Harry W. Barnes of Philadelphia is the new president-elect of the Association and New Orleans, La. is the place of meeting for another year.

Some interesting legislation was passed at this session. Claims that the NMA has been ruled from withering will be forever silenced by the passage of constitutional amendments affecting the makeup of the House of Delegates. Hereafter members of the House of Delegates will be chosen and certified to in the local organizations of the association on the basis of one delegate to any ten paid up member or fraction thereof in the local unit. This is expected to remove a lot of politics from the convention by having these delegates elected at home, and make the organization thoroughly representative of all its members in all sections of the country. This legislation was enthusiastically received by the membership and quickly passed over the faint protests of a few objectionists.

New constitutions are to be printed and sold to the membership at cost and a list of the active members of the Association is to be published for distribution to members.

Heretofore some friction has resulted from having several organizations meeting at the same time and place without any co-ordinating body.