

Mims, Florida  
May 16, 1947

House of Representatives  
Florida Legislature  
Tallahassee, Florida

Dear Sirs :

The Florida State Senate has recently passed and sent to you a proposed constitutional amendment that would require Florida citizens to be able to read any portion of the State and Federal Constitutions in order to qualify for voting. We wish to express our opposition to this measure.

It is quite obvious that this measure is designed to restrict the voting privileges of a certain group of citizens. In the words of Senator Carl Gray, this proposed amendment "is nothing more than a white primary bill with another suit of clothes on". Experiences in other states have proven that these literacy tests are often used arbitrarily by registrars to bar certain citizens whose votes are not desired, while other citizens with no higher literary qualifications are permitted to vote unchallenged. Negro citizens have often been victims of this unfair system. Its introduction into Florida would only tend to slow down the development of liberalism in our state.

This measure, if passed, is bound to cause unmerited hardships for prospective Negro voters. Florida Negro citizens have suffered many handicaps under our educational system. Our state has not made the same provisions for the education of its colored citizens as it has for the education of its white citizens. If you will just look back on our public school system as it was twenty years ago, you can easily see why a higher percentage of Negro citizens might have difficulty reading any section of the Constitution. Should Florida Negro citizens be penalized now for being victims of a system over which they had no control ?

We see no need for so many restrictions on voting. A citizen does not have to read the Constitution in order to pay taxes. Many men who served in the armed forces would have had difficulty reading certain sections of the Constitution, yet they made their contribution to the defense of their country and democracy. Is it fair now to create new restrictions that might tend to deny some of these same men the fundamental right to vote ?

Again we warn you of the danger of vesting such arbitrary power in the hands of one individual. This makes it too easy for that individual to practice discrimination.

Therefore, we respectfully urge you to defeat this unnecessary and dangerous proposal.

Respectfully yours,

*Harry T. Moore*  
Harry T. Moore, Executive Secretary

1. Florida State Conference, NAACP
2. Progressive Voters' League of Florida

Mims, Florida  
May 18, 1947

Fellow Citizens :

The Florida State has passed a proposed constitutional amendment that would require voters to pass a literacy test in order to qualify for voting. This bill says that "no person who cannot read any paragraph of the Constitution of the United States or the State of Florida shall be qualified for voting in any election ---".

Senator John E. Mathews of Duval County is the author of this bill. Senator Mathews, as you know, seems to be very anxious to keep somebody from voting. Instead of trying to make it possible for a larger number of citizens to enjoy the fundamental rights and privileges of democracy, Senator Mathews is trying desperately to restrict the number that can enjoy these rights. His main "white primary" bill was decisively defeated in the Senate, but he has managed to get his second bill through the Senate by a narrow margin. Senator Carl Gray has appropriately branded this second ~~bill~~ measure as a "white primary bill with another suit of clothes on".

Our boys who served in the armed forces did not have to read any paragraph of the Constitution in order to help defend their country. Citizens do not have to read the Constitution in order to pay taxes to support the Government. Why, then, is it so necessary that a citizen be forced to read any part of the Constitution before he can help to select those officials who are to govern him and spend his tax money ?

This bill exposes prospective voters to too much discrimination. One applicant might be given a very easy paragraph to read; while another applicant, whose vote is not desired, might be asked to read a much more difficult paragraph. It is dangerous to let one official in a county, or precinct, decide who shall vote and who shall not vote.

This bill is now in the House of Representatives. Let us do everything possible to arouse opposition to this dangerous measure. You should immediately wire or write your Representatives and urge them to vote against the Mathews Bill that would require voters to pass a literacy test. Encourage other citizens to do the same thing. Churches, lodges, clubs, and other organizations should send telegrams urging the defeat of this bill.

Yours for democracy in Florida,

*Harry T. Moore*  
Harry T. Moore, Executive Secretary

1. Florida State Conference, NAACP
2. Progressive Voters' League of Florida

Mims Florida  
May 24, 1947

Fellow Citizens :

In April, 1944, the United States Supreme Court rendered its famous decision in the Texas Primary Case, thus clearly establishing the principle that Negro citizens have a right to vote in all elections in the South. It then became apparent that golden political opportunities were within our grasp and that a state organization was needed to help arouse Florida Negro citizens to a fuller realization of this fact. Therefore, a state-wide meeting was called in Lake Wales in August, 1944, under the auspices of the Florida State Conference, NAACP, and the Progressive Veterans' League of Florida was organized. In 1946 the Progressive Veterans' League was chartered under the laws of Florida.

The League has adopted the following general objectives :

1. To carry on intensive campaigns for registration of Negro voters.
2. To solicit the co-operation of other organizations (civic, fraternal, business, and religious) in an effort to get more Negroes registered.
3. To conduct voting schools for Negro citizens, so that all may become familiar with the techniques of voting.
4. To check closely the records and attitudes of all candidates for political office, and to make recommendations to Negro voters on the basis of such records.
5. To oppose vigorously any "lily-white" tendencies in either major political party.
6. To encourage the organization of county and city voters' leagues that will help to carry out these same objectives on a local level.

The Progressive Veterans' League is devoted to the cause of good government for ALL the people. It does not cater to any foreign "isms". It stands for American democracy, pure and simple. We believe in the principle of "men and measures", rather than blind allegiance to any one political party. The League is designed primarily to help stimulate wholesome political activity among Florida Negro citizens.

A local unit of the Progressive Veterans' League may be organized in any community by a group of citizens pledged to carry out the general program outlined above. The officers shall be a president, vice president, secretary, assistant secretary, ~~treasurer~~ treasurer, and such other officers as the local unit may deem necessary, all of whom shall be elected annually. We recommend the following standing committees for such local unit: Membership, Program, Entertainment, Finance, Political Action. A local unit may set up other committees that may seem necessary. The officers of a local unit and the chairmen of the standing committees should form the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall have general control of the affairs of the local unit, subject to the authority of the local unit. A local unit may decide how often it shall hold meetings. All local units shall be subject to the general authority and jurisdiction of the State Veterans' League.

The annual membership fee in the State Veterans' League is \$1.00. Half of each membership fee remains in the local treasury and half is sent to the State League. Make checks or orders to the state treasurer, G. D. Rogers, Tampa. Be sure to mail them to the executive secretary at Mims. Membership cards will be issued to members as they pay this annual fee. The necessary number of cards may be secured from the executive secretary. Local political and civic clubs may become affiliated with the Progressive Veterans' League and may issue membership cards as directed above.

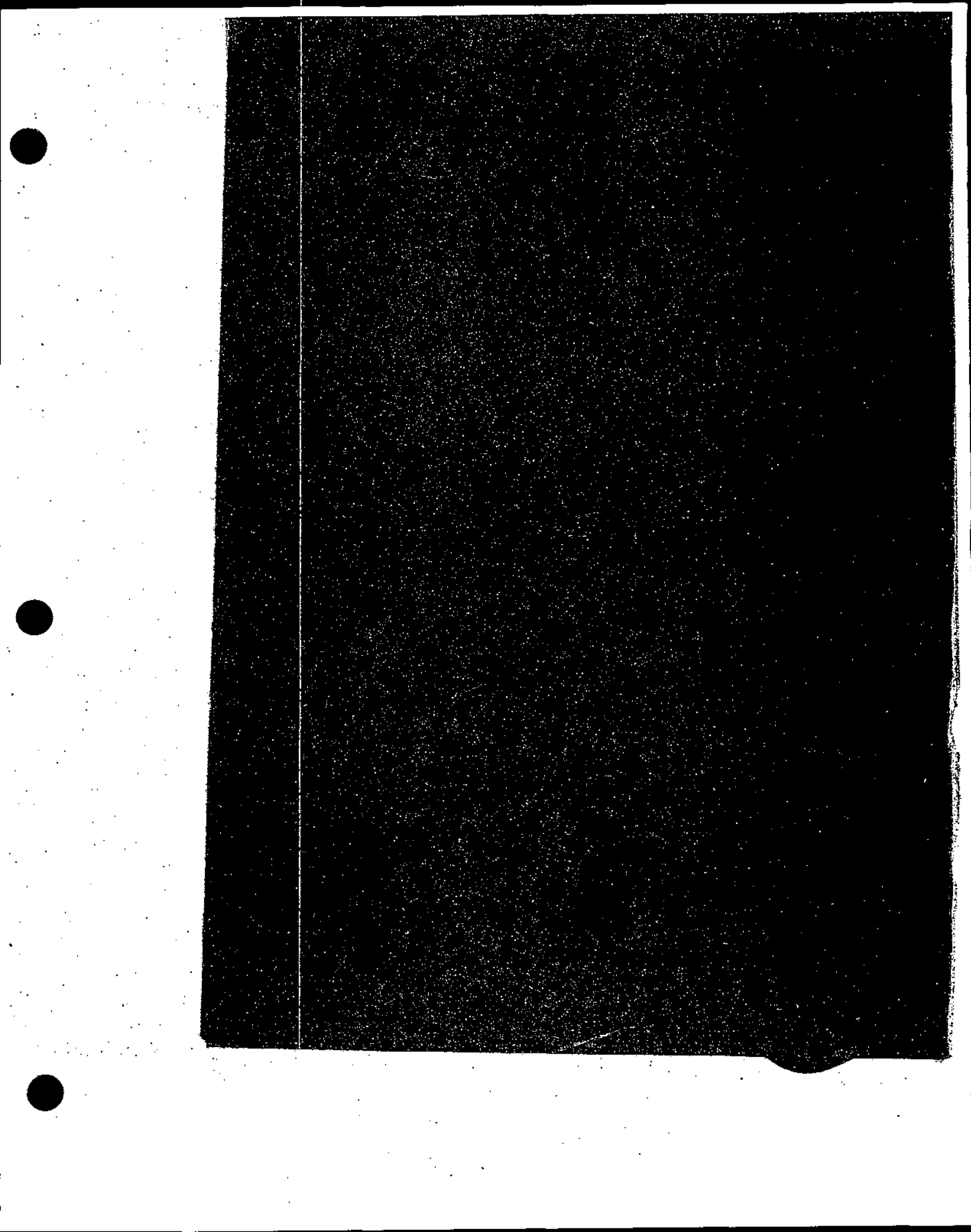
Fellow citizens, let us begir ourselves and help to promote the cause of democracy in our state. Those who seek to destroy representative government in Florida were decisively defeated in the 1947 Legislature. But they have not given up. They have threatened to "take this issue into the highways, the byways and the crossroads" during the next state-wide political campaign. We must prepare ourselves to help defeat these enemies of a truly democratic government. We must join hands with the progressive forces in this state and thereby help to

Local units of the Progressive Voters' League must be organized all over the state. Will you help us do this? Please let us hear from you.

Walter P. Reeks, President  
35 Pierce St., Clearwater

Yours for democracy in Florida,  
*Harry T. Moore*  
Harry T. Moore, Executive Secretary  
Box 4, Mims

Progressive Voters' League of Florida, Inc.





Mount Pleasant Baptist Church  
Orlando, Florida,  
February 16, 1946.

The meeting of the State Progressive Voters League was called to order by its local chairman, Mr. C. T. Williams, America, was sung, followed by prayer Rev. R. S. Johnson of Sanford, Fla. All members were registered by Mr. Arthur James of Sanford. The chairman asked for committee reports; a suggestion was made by the chairman that we think on the method of voting in the county.

Mr. Broughton reported on the Democratic committee, held in Tampa. He was asked to meet the committee by Mr. Watson who presented his case in behalf of the Negro Good Citizens. A lady of Miami, from Alabama, stated that Negroes are voting in Alabama. What's the Negro's attitude, taxation without representation? Any man (Negro) qualified to run. Our primary want is ----- ballot? (Ans) Mr. Broughton, Any man who is qualified to run, is the Negro ready for the ballot? (Ans) Yes. We have been for forty years, all types of gradations. Don't touch white primary, don't touch separate ballot. The Tampa Tribune, says, "separate voting too expensive". Our group represented is separate ballot. We are not interested in running negroes in years.

Mr. Munday responded, enjoyed report, board of directors opposed separate voting.

1. Do know why separate.

2. Restrict Negro during legislature.

3. Educational equipments.

4. Men fought for America.

Dr. H. J. Tall entered suit against Negro voting.

5. Would like to get majority of members to vote against separate voting place.

Mrs. H. T. Moore expressed appreciation:

1. Not in favor of separate voting.

2. Any legal grounds opposing separate voting. Mr. Munday stated that there is no authority against separate voting. Mr. C. T. Williams stated that the democratic executive has the right to decide voting.

Mr. Moore -- Ask for Negro clerks. Mr. Broughton is in line with all but wants ballot in right way; have protection of ballot, too expensive, and avoid court fight, have Negro person in charge. Mr. T. L. Smith said that we are out of order -- voting machines in Volusia County.

Mr. Roaks -- discussion unnecessary, too much intelligence in Negro race. Voted in Georgia, whites are fair.

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Mr. Munday -- Why separate voting? three cent letter.

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Chairman -- Place was stated.

Mr. Roaks -- Place of voting not important.

Mr. Jenkins -- Good things are gotten step by step, get people in line to vote, 900 registered, more registered from house to house.

Mrs. Wallace, Daytona -- Get Negro right to vote, no segregation, missionary to people.

Rev. Johnson, Orlando -- Must get them registered.

Mr. Hampton -- Leesburg, Get people to register.

Mr. Jenkins-- Letter from Chester-- to Attorney Watson.  
 Requirement, to vote. Reply-- Register as democrats or republicans.  
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1. 80,000 (colored voters)

State of Georgia, negroes elected a representative (woman).

Pick the man who is fair.

Group more representatives, be united.

Have good leaders.

Mr. Rooks to Chairman, "vote for best man, independent. Believe in political democracy". Organization should multiply. Need good judges. Good school members.

Segregation Committee:

Mr. Broughton, Tampa; Chairman.

Mr. Munday, Miami.

Mr. Moore, Nims.

Mrs. Lee Lake City County chairman.

Mr. Jenkins, Tallahassee, Fla.

Mr. Joe Harris, Daytona.

Mr. C.W. Harris, Deland.

Mr. Rooks, Get good speakers.

Mr. C.W. Harris said that the Ways and Means Committee see to it that we have cards or something to wear. Mr. Moore stated that we were waiting to see what to put on them.

The Budget Committee meets also at 2:15 with the Segregation Committee. Representatives of Volusia County just arrived at this point of the meeting. Pres. of Branch and Principle of School. Benediction, Rev. Oats.



Opening Song: What a Friend We Have In Jesus.

Prayer: Rev K. S. Johnson, Clerk Camp # 17, American Woodman; Sanford, Fla.

Presiding: Prof. O. W. Harris.

All officers of the Veterans League were asked to give greetings and progress of each county represented.

1. Lake County Ist. Rep. Mr. Hampton, Mount Dora, Clermont, Eustis, Um Negroes voted in city elections. - Umillite. Have citizens to show their registration cards.
2. Seminole County, Sanford Mr. James; Rev. Gates. Asked registrars what to do Democratic work of county Commissioners.
3. Sumter County-- Sumter County, Mrs. Lillian Fryer, stated that Uncle Tom Negroes are afraid that they will be burned out.
4. Titusville, Brevard County- Rev. Felder. Case pending, registering may be a little difficult or troublesome, the white man knew all the time that Negroes should vote in the Primary; but he kept it a secret to keep the negroes out. What to Do? Have a training program too help the people.
5. Volusia County- Mrs. Wallace, Negroes have been voting in the county as others spoke she thought of a plan to offer. The Public Schools. Tell the child in Social Studies class and he will tell the parent. Another solution; have conferences at the church with our people. James Gray of Sanford--- Asked, Must her register as a Democrat? Register in the party that you are going to vote in. Mr. Rocks stated that he registered as a Republican, but had to change to Democrat in order to put the congressman out who isn't doing anything; Mr. James mentioned that it is not an easy job to get the people to vote, another point is to use Women psychology. Educate ourselves and educate the children. Mrs. Detwyler said that she could ask God for help. Rev. Oats Jr. spoke; some of his points:

1. Self-called preacher all for self.
2. People-called preachers, preaches all down on knees
3. God-called, has the people in his heart.

Mr. W. M. Gibson of Titusville, (80yrs. old) mentioned that years ago when he came to Fla. 1879, Negroes were able to hold Govt. positions. He also gave the history of the Republican Party. Don't sell your vote.

The joint committee reports limited to 10 minutes.

Mrs. Viola T. Hill, arrived late, she was snow bounded in Chicago which caused the train to be late.

Ways and Means, Segregation committees; Mrs Mike Secretary.

1. Segregation at polls.
2. Recommend cooperation of churches, high officials should
3. pass information down to people.
3. Fraternal orders will do all they can to aid voting.
4. Insurands managers do the same.
5. Membership fee \$2.00.
6. proper steps to get charters.
7. All pay outs in checks.

We the joint committee on Ways and Means of financing the work of the Progressive Voters' League and Resolutions, submit the following report:

- I. After necessary debate, it was agreed by Mr. Munday, seconded by Re. Johnson that the organization go on
- II record to oppose segregation at the polls.



II. Membership fees: The annual membership fee should be \$2.00 for the state, and local membership fees be determined by each local organization. (motioned by Mr. Harry T. Moore, sec. by Rev. Johnson)

III. Proper steps be made to have the organization chartered. (motioned by Mr. Jenkins, sec. by Mr. Hunday)

IV. Methods of Expenditures: All vouchers should be signed by Pres, secretary, and treasurer, all bills paid by checks. The executive secretary should have at his disposal \$5000 \$300.00 cash for emergencies.

- Chairman, Mr. E.E.
- Mr. James S. Davis
- Mr. Otis Hunday
- Rev. R. H. Johnson
- Mrs. E. L. Mike
- Mr. H. T. Moore
- Mr. L. C. Jenkins
- Mrs. Essie Lee
- Mr. J. E. Gilbert
- Mr. Allen Atterway
- Mr. William Peterson
- Mr.

- Ministers present: Rev. Collier
- Rev. Jenkins
- Rev. Armstead
- Rev. Oats
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Mr. Munday responded, enjoyed report, heard of director's proposed separate voting.

1. Do know why separate.
- Restrict Negro during legislature.
3. Educational equipments.
4. Man fought for America.
- Mr. H. J. Tall entered suit against Negro voting.
6. Would like to get majority of members to vote against separate voting place.

Mrs. H. T. Moore expressed appreciation;

1. Not in favor of separate voting.

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Mr. Moore -- Ask for Negro clerks. Mr. Broughton is in line with all but wants ballot in right way; have protection of ballot, too expensive, and avoid court fight, have Negro person in charge. Mr. T.L. Smith said that we are out of order-- voting machines in Volusia County.

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The Chairman asked for committee Reports: A suggestion was made by the chairman that we think on the method of voting in the primary. Each county represented, find out the method of voting in his county.

Mr. Broughton reported on the democratic committee held in Tampa. He was asked to meet the committee by Mr. Watson. Mr. Watson presented his case in behalf of the Negro Good Citizens. A lady of Miami, from Alabama stated that Negro's are voting in Alabama. What's the Negro Attitude, taxation without representation, Any man (Negro) qualified to run. Our primary want---is ballot. Ans. Mr. Broughton, Any man who is qualified to run white. Is the Negro ready for the ballot?(Ans.)Yes, we have been for forty years, all types of gradurates. Like to hear resolution whether to have separate ballot. Don't touch separate ballot, white primary

The Tampa Tribune states, separate voting is too expensive. Our group represented if separate ballot. We are not interested in running any Negro in years.

Mr. Munday responded: enjoyed the report. Board of Director opposed separate voting.

Mr. Roaks--- to chair-- Vote for best man-- indepentent belief in political democracy. Organization should multiply.  
Need for good judged.  
Good school members.  
Not deciev ed by members.

Segregation Committee: Mr. Broughton, Tampa, Chairman.

Mr. Munday, Miami.

Mr. Moore, Mims.

Mrs. Lee, Lake County Chairman, (Time 2;15)

Mr. Jenkins, Tallahassee, Fla.

Mr. Joe Harris, Daytona Beach.

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Mr. Munday-- Negro should register.

Mr. Roaks-- Money, get good speakers.

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Presiding: Prof. C. W. Harris.

All officers of the Voters League were asked to give greetings and progress of each county represented.

1. Lake County 1st. Rep. Mr. Hampton, Mount Dora, Clermont, Eustis, Um Negroes voted in city elections. Unillita. Have citizens to show their registration cards.
2. Seminole County, Sanford Mr. James; Rev. Oates. Asked registras what to do Democratic work of county Commissioners.
3. Sumter County-- Sumter County, Mrs. Lillian Fryer, stated that Uncle Tom Negroes are afraid that they will be burned out.
4. Titusville, Brevard County- Rev. Felder. Case pending, registering may be a little difficult or troublesome, the white man knew all the time that Negroes should vote in the Primary; but he kept it a secret to keep the negroes out. What to Do? Have a training program too help the people.
5. Volusia County- Mrs. Wallace, Negroes have been voting in the county as others spoke she thought of a plan to offer. The Public Schools. Tell the child in Social Studies, class and he will tell the parent. Another solution; have conferances at the church with our people. James Gray of Sanford--- Asked, Must her register as a Democrat? Register in the party that you are going to vote in. Mr. Rooks stated that he registered as a Republican, but had to change to Democrat in order to put the congressman out who isn't doing anything; Mr. James mentioned that it is not an easy job to get the people to vote, another point is to use Women psychology. Educate ourselves and educate the children.

Mrs. Detwyler said that she could ask God for help.

Rev. Oats Jr. spoke; some of his points:

1. Self-called preacher all for self.
2. People-called preachers, preaches all down on knees e
3. God-called, has the people in his heart.

Mr. W. M. Gibson of Titusville, (80yrs. old) mentioned that years ago when he came to Fla. 1879, Negroes were able to hold Govt. positions. He also gave the history of the Republican Party. Don't sell your vote.

The joint committee reports limited to 10 minutes.

Mrs. Viola T. Hill, arrived late, she was snow bounded in Chicago which caused the train to be late.

Ways and Means, Segregation committees; Mrs Mike Secretary.

1. Segregation at polls.
2. Recommend cooperation of churches, high officials should
3. pass information down to people.
3. Fraternal orders will do all they can to aid voting.
4. Insurande managers do the same.
5. Membership fee \$2.00.
6. proper steps to get charters.
7. All pay outs in checks.

We the joint committee on Ways and Means of financing the work of the Progressive Voters' League and Resolutions, submit the following report:

- I. After necessary debate, it was agreed by Mr. Munday, seconded by Re. Johnson that the organization go on
- II record to oppose segregation at the polls.

II. Membership fee: The annual membership fee should be \$2.00 for the state, and local membership fee be determined by each local organization. ( motioned by Mr. Harry T. Moore, sec. by Rev Johnson)

III. Proper steps be made to have the organization chartered, (motioned by Mr. Jenkins, sec. by Mr. Munday).

IV. Methods of Expenditures: All vouches should be signed by Pres., secretary, and treasurer, all bills paid by checks. The executive secretary should have at his disposal \$3000 \$300.00 cash for emergencies.

- Chairman, Mr. E.E.
- Mr. James S. Davis
- Mr. Otis Munday
- Rev. R. H. Johnson
- Mrs. M. L. Mike
- Mr. H. T. Moore
- Mr. L. G. Jenkins
- Mrs. Essie Lee
- Mr. J. E. Gilbert
- Mr. Allen Atterway
- Mr. William Peterson
- Mr.

- Ministers present: Rev. Collier
- Rev. Jenkins
- Rev. Armstead
- Rev. Oats
- Rev. Conington.

Booker  
Mrs. Booker etc

In School  
2/22/46

Dear Mr. Moore,  
I tried to get this minute to you earlier. How the the morning session I am not very sure about as I was not there and took what was given me.

- Having tests etc at school to correct and turn in on the 19<sup>th</sup> CIO + NAACP meetings all the same week to go to - my personal Notary work (Income) papers to do have all worked me over-time. I bought paper and carbon for my sister-in-law to help me with the minutes while I was at school. She was not present at the meeting did the best she could. I paid her \$1.00. I hope you can make out with it. I enclosed also in a write-up I started to send to Tampa sent - and other papers but I will let you decide on that. In a hurry.  
Love to Family - (Mrs.) A. S. Booker



# Nationwide NAACP Membership Campaign

1946

20 WEST 40th STREET • NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

ARTHUR B. SPINGARN  
PRESIDENT

WALTER WHITE  
SECRETARY

ELLA J. BAKER  
DIRECTOR OF BRANCHES

DAISY E. LAMPKIN  
FIELD SECRETARY

LUCILLE BLACK  
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

March 16, 1946

ASSISTANT  
FIELD SECRETARIES

LEROY E. CARTER  
DONALD JONES  
NOMA JENSEN  
NOAH GRIFFIN  
PACIFIC COAST  
RUBY HURLEY  
YOUTH SEC'Y

Mr. Harry T. Moore  
President, Florida State Conference of Branches  
Box 4  
Mims, Florida

My dear Mr. Moore:

I have your letter of February 26.

The Jacksonville Branch reported a total of 985 members in the period between January 1 and December 31, 1945. Perhaps your informant included some reports received in this office after December 31. However, our official record stands at this figure.

The Seminole County Branch was inadvertently omitted from the list sent you. They reported 238 members in 1945 and we have suggested a goal of three hundred members for 1946.

The Bradenton, Gifford, Key West and Nassau County Branches were inactive for all of 1945 and listed as dead units. We would appreciate any help you can give us in reviving these branches. The Key West Branch has been inactive for more than two years, and unless they come to life in the very near future, action will probably be taken to revoke the charters of these branches.

I am noting your suggestion that we set a goal of five hundred members for the Miami and Orange County Branches. Please let me hear from you regarding your plans for the state-wide membership campaign.

Sincerely yours,

Lucille Black  
Membership Secretary

LB:EB





# Nationwide

## NAACP Membership Campaign

1946

20 WEST 40th STREET • NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

ARTHUR B. SPINGARN  
PRESIDENT

WALTER WHITE  
SECRETARY

ELLA J. BAKER  
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LUCILLE BLACK  
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

February 20, 1946

ASSISTANT  
FIELD SECRETARIES.

- LEROY E. CARTER
- DONALD JONES
- NOMA JENSEN
- NOAH GRIFFIN  
PACIFIC COAST
- RUBY HURLEY  
YOUTH SEC'Y

Mr. Harry T. Moore  
President, Florida State Conference of Branches  
Box 4  
Mims, Florida

My dear Mr. Moore:

In accordance with your request I am enclosing herewith the following information:

1. Membership record of the Florida Branches for 1945.
2. Membership record for the Florida Youth Council for 1945.
3. Names and addresses of Presidents of NAACP State Conferences.

We do not have a branch of the Association in Fort Valley, Georgia. However, there is a college chapter there. The President is:

Miss Luetta Colvin  
Fort Valley State College  
Fort Valley, Georgia.

You will note that I have included in the membership records the goals we are suggesting for the 1946 campaign. Please let us have your reaction to the figures we have put down for the various Branches. Where county branches are concerned, it is our feeling that they should aim to do a much bigger job than the branches limited to one community. I shall be glad to make any changes you may suggest regarding these goals.

Sincerely yours,

*Lucille Black*  
Lucille Black  
Membership Secretary

LB:EB  
uopwa/cio/19  
Enclosures

N. A. A. C. P.  
20 W. 40TH STREET  
NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

*Valentine*  
*Karl M. Mosk*

BOX 4  
MILLS, N.Y.



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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE  
 ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

20 WEST 40TH STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

LONGACRE 3-6890

*Official Organ: The Crisis*



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*West Coast Regional Secretary*

Lucille Black  
*Membership Secretary*

Ruby Hurley *Youth Secretary*  
 Jesse O. Dedmon, Jr.  
*Secretary, Veterans' Affairs*

March 1, 1946

Dear Friends:

Attached is a copy of the Veterans' Handbook, compiled and published by the Association, which outlines in detail the rights and benefits that are available to veterans of the armed forces and their dependents. We are especially interested in this booklet being distributed as widely as possible. Will you let us know right away how many copies your branch can use for distribution? We want to be sure that the number of copies ordered will be actually distributed, since we must eliminate as much waste as possible.

This is a matter for IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION!

Sincerely,

Walter White,  
 Secretary

WW:dp

Office of The  
ATTORNEY GENERAL  
State Of Florida  
Tallahassee

February 19, 1946

Mr. Harry E. Moore  
Mesa, Florida

Dear Moore :

In reply to your letter of February 15, you are entitled to register now while the books are in the hands of the clerk in the precinct, and this includes the right of changing former registrations from Republican to Democrat.

You should re-register anyhow, and not be content with any former registration that you might have made. You may present this letter to the precinct clerk or to the supervisor of registration of precinct number.

Very truly yours,

J. Lee Palmer

Attorney General

GOVE



STATE OFFICERS

HARRY T. MOORE, PRESIDENT  
BOX 4, MIMS

DR. C. F. DUNCAN, VICE-PRESIDENT  
417 1/2 BROAD ST., JACKSONVILLE

FRANK C. BURTS, VICE-PRESIDENT  
226 E. LAKE AVE., TAMPA

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335 JACKSON ST., N. ST. PETERSBURG

EMMA A. PICKETT, ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
3210 E. BUFFALO AVE., TAMPA

REV. K. S. JOHNSON, TREASURER  
601 GYPRESS AVE., SANFORD

FLORIDA STATE CONFERENCE OF THE

National Association

FOR THE

Advancement of Colored People

NATIONAL OFFICERS

ARTHUR D. SPINGARN  
PRESIDENT

WALTER WHITE  
SECRETARY

MARY WHITE OVINGTON  
TREASURER

ROY WILKINS  
EDITOR, THE CRISIS

THURGOOD MARSHALL  
SPECIAL COUNSEL

ELLA J. BAKER  
DIRECTOR OF BRANCHES

Mims, Florida  
May 30, 1946

Attorney Thurgood Marshall  
Special Counsel, NAACP  
20 W. 40th Street  
New York 18, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Marshall :

I have Miss Samuel's letter of May 24th, in which she explained that you could not meet us in Panama City on June 8th or 9th, because of a previous engagement in Atlanta, Ga., June 5 - 10. I also have your letter of May 27th, with reference to proposed plans of the Department of Justice to investigate vote denials in Brevard County.

Our trouble here in Brevard County involved the refusal of registration officials to register Negroes as Democrats. Here in my home precinct (Mims) we did get the precinct clerk to register new applicants as Democrats. A few of these voted in the Primary this month. Unfortunately, however, most of the Negroes in Mims had registered some years ago, when Negroes had no choice but to register as Republicans or Independents. When we attempted to change our old affiliation from Republican to Democrat, the Mims precinct clerk referred us to W. J. Bailey of Titusville, Supervisor of Registration for Brevard County. Mr. Bailey refused to judge, and he even told the Mims precinct clerk not to make any changes for old registrants. We got an opinion from Attorney General Watson's office, but that had no effect on Bailey. Even the new applicants in other Brevard County precincts were not permitted to register as Democrats.

We now have a serious situation in a few Florida counties, where properly registered Negroes were not permitted to vote this month. In Taylor County Negro homes were fired upon the night before election. We would like to have representatives from these counties to interview you personally. Can you spare us a day in Jacksonville after you complete your work in Atlanta? If so, we can have these persons to meet you there and give all details. Please let me hear from you as early as possible.

Sincerely yours,

Harry T. Moore

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ATTY. S. D. MCGILL  
ATTY. L. E. THOMAS  
EDWARD D. DAVIS





Mims, Florida  
July 30, 1946

Atty. E. K. McIlraith  
121 Graham Building  
Jacksonville, Florida

Dear Atty. McIlraith :

Did you get the letter that I mailed you about two weeks ago, stating that I am back home again and that we would be expecting you to come down soon to file the suits against Mr. Bailey? I also asked you to let me know the persons whom you plan to use as clients, so that we can have them available.

We are very anxious to have these cases filed and well advanced before our heels open for the November election. We have been reliably informed that Atty. Grafton thinks the Rogers and Burke suits have been dropped. He told someone that you realized that you had no case and that is why you have not pushed the suits any further. Therefore, if we can soon get the suits against Bailey filed and have all of them called up for a hearing, this rumor will be dispelled.

I expect to be away from home Thursday and Friday of this week. I hope to be here all of next week. Please let us know when you will be down.

Sincerely yours,

Harry T. Moore



N. A. A. C. P. LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATIONAL FUND, INC.

20th West 40th Street, New York 18, N. Y.

July 1, 1946

Hon. Tom C. Clark  
Attorney General  
U. S. Department of Justice  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Clark:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of a statement of the facts given to me by Deacon Smith, of Perry, Taylor County, Florida, detailing the events leading to the eventual refusal to permit Negroes to vote in the Democratic Primary on May 7th.

Deacon Smith was brought to us by Mr. Harry J. Moore, President of the Florida State Conference of NAACP Branches, Box 4, Miami, Florida. Any further information which you may wish can be secured from the persons named in the statement and also from Mr. Moore.

We request that you immediately investigate the refusal to allow Negroes to vote in the Primary in Taylor County, Florida, and we request a report of the results of your investigation. If the investigation indicates that the facts are as outlined above, we trust that proper action will be taken to prosecute those persons responsible.

Very truly yours,

Marion Wynne Perry  
Assistant Special Counsel

WFP:GS  
uspsa-19-CIO  
Enc.



# VETERANS HANDBOOK



Department of Veterans Affairs  
Washington, D.C.

The purpose of this handbook is to give a bird's-eye view of the rights and benefits that are available to Veterans of the Armed Forces and their dependents.

It does not answer all the questions anyone could ask. This handbook gives only the high spots and tries to tell you where to get the answers.

For further information write to:

Jesse O. Dedmon, Jr.  
Secretary, Veterans Affairs  
Washington Bureau NAACP  
100 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.  
Washington 1, D. C.

# SERVICE MEN'S RIGHTS AND BENEFITS

## I. WHAT YOU SHOULD DO IMMEDIATELY UPON DISCHARGE

### a. Report to Selective Service Board

Every man discharged from the armed forces should report to his Selective Service Board in person or by letter, within five days of his discharge. This is required by law. Ex-service women are not required to report, but should do so if they desire aid in securing reemployment.

### b. Apply for Old Job Within 90 Days

If you want to get back the job you had before you entered the armed forces, you must apply for it within 90 days after the date of your discharge.

### c. Pay Government Insurance Premiums Direct

Most ex-service men and women will want to keep their National Service Life Insurance in force. To do this it is necessary to pay the premiums direct to the Veterans Administration; otherwise the insurance will lapse.

### d. Put Your Records in Order

Every ex-member of the armed forces has a serial, service, or file number. It is most important that you keep a record of it and of other such records—such as originals or legal copies of necessary papers—in a safe place where they can always be found.

The reason is simple. Claims and requests for benefits will usually require certain information, such as a man's Army or Marine Corps serial number, Navy file or service number, details of his discharge and, in some cases, proof of the relationship of his dependents.

[3]

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The most important records are the following:

Army or Marine Corp serial  
number  
Navy service or file number  
Coast Guard service number  
Discharge papers  
Disability claim "C" number  
Insurance policies  
Social Security Card

Birth certificate (self)  
Birth certificate (wife)  
Birth certificate (children)  
Marriage certificate  
Any divorce decrees  
Last will and testament  
Selective Service registration  
card.

Get these records in order now—even though you may not need them immediately. Some day you may be saved great inconvenience and delay by having them all together where you can find them easily.

Your Discharge Certificate is a valuable document, so you will be wise to have it recorded. To do this you should take it to the County Clerk, County Recorder or other appropriate official at your local County Court House. In most states, it will be recorded without charge. The original will be returned to you and then, if you ever need a copy, you can get a certified one from this source. In the meantime, keep the original in a safe place. (If you lose it, write to your own branch of the service) A small photostat copy should be carried in your wallet.

## II. BENEFITS FOR VETERANS

### a. Mustering-Out Pay

As a veteran discharged under honorable conditions, you automatically receive mustering-out pay of from \$100 to \$300 to help tide you over the immediate period after your discharge and to aid you in your necessary readjustment to civilian life.

Those who served less than 60 days receive \$100; 60 days or more, but no foreign service, \$200; 60 days or more, and foreign service \$300. Certain groups are excluded, such as those receiving base pay (not counting fogies) or more than

[4]

\$200 a month at the time of their discharge. Any eligible veteran discharged before this law was passed may obtain payments by applying to his own branch of service.

### b. Insurance—Government

Your National Service Life Insurance will be one of your most valuable assets after your discharge. If you let it lapse, you will not be able to buy similar protection for yourself and your family for the same cost. To keep it in force you must do two things:

1. Pay the premiums direct. Make your check or money order payable to the Treasurer of the United States and mail it to the Collections Subdivision, Veterans' Administration, Washington 25, D. C. You may arrange to pay your premiums monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or annually.
2. Your insurance was originally issued on what is called the Five-Year-Level Premium-Term plan and extended to eight years. Any time after it has been in force a year, and before the eight years are up, you may convert it into Ordinary Life, 20-Payment Life or 30-Payment Life. Your new policy will have regular cash values after the first year from which you can borrow if necessary.

If you wish to change your beneficiary, write the Director of Insurance, Veterans' Administration, Washington 25, D. C.

### c. Insurance—Private

If, when you went into the service, you had private life insurance, you may have arranged to have the Government protect this for you by guaranteeing the premiums. If so, remember that payments must be brought up to date, with interest, within two years after your discharge. Your insurance company or the Veterans' Administration will answer any questions.

[5]



#### d. Getting Your Old Job Back

If you worked for a private employer or for the Federal Government before the war, and want your job back, the qualifications are brief and simple; the position you left must have been other than temporary, you must have completed your military service satisfactorily, you must still qualify to perform the duties of the position, and you must apply for reemployment within 90 days of your discharge. If you cannot call upon your employer immediately, write and tell him when you can return to work, and keep a copy of your letter.

If you have any difficulty, go to your Reemployment Committee-man, a man assigned to your Local Selective Service Board, to be your personal advisor on reemployment. If necessary, he can obtain the assistance of the U. S. District Court and the Federal District Attorney. This service is free.

#### e. Getting a New Job

The United States Employment Service has 1,500 offices throughout the country and extends service to 2,200 other communities. All are ready and anxious to help you. In each of these local offices, there is a special Veterans' Employment Representative to assist war veterans in finding suitable jobs. They also advise and assist members of veterans' families seeking work. If you want a job, register at the U. S. Employment Service office nearest you as soon after your discharge as possible.

#### f. Getting a Government Job

If you were a Federal Civil Service employee (other than temporary) when you entered the war, you should apply to the agency where last employed within 90 days of your discharge or to the Civil Service Commission in the event you experience difficulty in being reinstated. If you satisfy the requirements (see "Getting Your Old Job Back,") you are

entitled to your former position or one "of like seniority, status and pay."

If you didn't have a Civil Service job before, but want to get one after you are discharged, you will get special consideration and preference in Civil Service examinations. This preference also applies to wives or widows of veterans under certain circumstances.

All wartime veterans discharged under honorable conditions are entitled to preference in U. S. Civil Service examinations. The entitlement of 5 or 10 points will be determined by the Civil Service Commission upon application to the Commission. Other privileges for veterans are:

1. Examinations for positions of guard, elevator operator, messenger, and custodian, will be restricted to veterans as long as veteran applicants are available.
2. Time spent in military service will be credited toward experience required for a position of the kind you left.
3. Age, height, and weight requirements are waived for veterans in most instances. Other physical requirements may be waived.
4. Veterans are exempt from provisions of law prohibiting government employment to more than two members of a family.
5. If an appointing officer passes over a veteran and selects a non-veteran, he must submit his reasons in writing to the Civil Service Commission.
6. In personnel reductions in any Federal Agency, preference in retention will be given to veterans.

There are approximately 4,500 local Civil Service Secretaries located in all first and second class post offices, who will advise you concerning Government employment or such information may be secured from your Reemployment Committee-man or the U. S. Employment Service, who will put you in touch with a representative of the Civil Service Commission.

#### **g. Apprentices Training**

Virtually all the 30,207 apprentice-training programs in the United States extend opportunities to returning veterans. Veterans may be employed as apprentices and be paid as they learn, getting not only a steady job but training which prepares them for skilled jobs. Age restrictions and other limitations are lifted for them in many cases. Information may be obtained through your nearest U. S. Employment Service Office or the nearest facility of the Veterans Administration.

#### **h. Vocational Training**

If you have a service-connected disability, which results in an occupational handicap, you can probably be taught a new type of work in which your disability will not hinder you. Through the Veterans' Administration you may be trained in a college, business, or trade school or on the job with a business firm. Tuition, books, supplies and equipment are provided at Government expense. During training, if the pension being received is less than \$105 per month, it will be increased to the rate of \$105 if you are single; \$115 if married with an added allowance of \$10 a month for first child and \$7 per month for each additional child and \$15 for any dependent parent.

If your disability is not service-connected, or occurs after you have left the service, and constitutes a vocational handicap, you may apply to your State Board of Vocational Education for guidance, special training, and placement. If in financial need, other services available include medical treatment, hospitalization, maintenance, and transportation during training, educational supplies, occupational tools and equipment. This is a Federal-State program for vocational rehabilitation, and operates in each state. Apply to your local Superintendent of Schools or the nearest United States Employment Service office for the address of the nearest Vocational Rehabilitation Office.

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#### **i. If Unemployed**

To cover temporary periods of unemployment after discharge, financial help is available to you, either through State or Federal sources.

1. *State Programs*—State unemployment compensation programs provide weekly payments to unemployed workers based on their previous work in "covered" jobs—that is, most jobs in private firms in business and industry; factories, shops, mines, mills, stores, offices, banks, etc. Types of jobs not covered are farm work, household service, government and self-employment, and work for many small firms. Almost all the states have frozen any unemployment insurance rights you may have earned before going into service. You may be able to draw upon them in case you are unemployed after your return.

Full information on job opportunities and unemployment compensation can be obtained at your nearest U. S. Employment Service office.

2. *Federal Provisions*—Weekly allowances of unemployment compensation are available through a Federal program if you are not eligible under a State program. If you qualify under both, money received under a State plan is subtracted from the Federal allowance. Under the Federal plan, you may receive four weeks of allowance for each calendar month of active service after September 16, 1940, and before the end of the present war, up to a total limit of 52 weeks.

If you are completely unemployed, your allowance is \$20 a week. If you are partially unemployed, you receive the difference between your wage and the weekly allowance plus \$3. If you are self-employed, you may still be eligible if your net earnings in the previous calendar month were less than \$100. Allowances remaining unpaid at your death do not become a part of your estate.

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3. *Employability Requirements*—You must have served after September 16, 1940, and before the end of the present war, and have been discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable after 90 days' active service, or because of injury or disability incurred in line of duty. Unemployment must have started within two years of discharge or end of the war. When you file a claim you must be residing in the United States, be completely unemployed or (if partially employed) be receiving weekly wages of less than \$23; you must register and continue to report to a public employment office, be able to work and be available for suitable work. Illness or disability which occurs during a period of unemployment for which allowances have already started will not disqualify you.

4. *Disqualifications*—You will be disqualified from receiving such allowances if you leave suitable work voluntarily and without good cause, if you are suspended or discharged for misconduct, if you fail without good cause to apply for suitable work to which you have been referred by a public employment office or to accept suitable work when offered, or if you fail without good cause to attend an available free training course. A job is not considered "suitable" if (a) the wages, hours, or conditions of work are substantially less favorable, than those prevailing for similar work in the locality, or (b) if the position offered is vacant because of a strike, lock-out, or labor disputes.

Such disqualifications begin the week in which the cause of disqualification occurs and continue for not more than four weeks immediately following. Under special circumstances the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs may extend the period of your disqualification.

You will also be disqualified from receiving an allowance for any week in which your unemployment is due to a "stoppage of work," existing because of a labor dispute in which you are participating or directly interested.

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Fuller information concerning these Federal benefits may be obtained at your nearest U. S. Employment Service Office.

**i. Loans for Homes, Farms, Business**

These three types of loans, including farm and business equipment are available to veterans who served on or after September 16, 1940, and before the end of the present war, and who are discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable after active service of 90 days or more, or because of service-incurred injury or disability. Applications must be made within two years after discharge or separation, or two years after the end of the war (whichever is later), but in no event more than five years, after the end of the war.

The Administrator of Veterans Affairs will guarantee up to 50% of any such loan or loans, provided the amount guaranteed does not exceed \$2000 in the case of non-real estate loans, nor \$4000 in the case of real estate loans. Loans guaranteed by the Administrator bear interest of not more than 4% per year and must be paid up within twenty years. The Administrator will pay the interest on the guaranteed amount for the first year.

Although the conditions vary somewhat for each type of loan, the general requirements are that the loan must be used for the purpose specified, that the terms of payment bear proper relationship to the veteran's anticipated income and expense, that the purchase price not exceed the reasonable value, that the property be useful and reasonably necessary, and, for farms or business loans, that the veteran have such ability and experience as to provide a reasonable likelihood that he will be successful.

Detailed information concerning these loans is available at any facility of the Veterans Administration.

Information concerning other opportunities in farming, including kinds of farms, cost of farms, sound farming methods, and sources of credit can be obtained from your county agri-

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cultural agent. A booklet on this subject is also available upon request to the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. Ask for "Shall I Be a Farmer?" (AWI-105).

If you had a business of your own before you went into service and had to close it up or turn it over to someone else when you left, you may be able to get a loan to reestablish your business or a similar one through the small-business loan program of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

You must show prior business experience and have some capital to put into the business yourself, and there must be sound economic need for the business. Apply through a bank or other financial institution; if the bank cannot make the loan, file your application directly with the R.F.C. through its loan agencies.

#### k. Education

Educational aid for veterans is available from the Veterans' Administration provided: (1) you were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable; (2) you served 90 days or more (not counting the time in Army Specialized Training Program or Navy College Training Program which course was a continuation of a civilian course and which was pursued to completion, or as a Cadet or Midshipman in a Service Academy) or were discharged or released from service because of an actual service-incurred injury or disability; and (3) you start such education not later than four years after discharge or end of war (whichever date is later); (4) permits officers on terminal leave or men being hospitalized pending discharge to begin their studies, without subsistence payments.

1. *Length of Training*—One year (or its equivalent in part-time study). If you complete these courses (except refresher or retraining courses) satisfactorily, you will be entitled to additional education or training not to exceed the length of time you spent in active service after September 16, 1940, and

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before the end of the present war (not including ASTP or Navy College Program). No course of education or training shall exceed 4 years.

2. *Types of Courses*—You may select your own course at any educational or training institution which accepts you as qualified to undertake them, provided the institution is on the list approved by the Veterans' Administration. All courses must be completed within nine years after discharge or the end of the war, whichever is later.

3. *Types of Educational Institutions*—Public or private, elementary, secondary and other schools furnishing education for adults; business schools and colleges, vocational schools; junior colleges, teachers' colleges, normal schools, professional schools, universities, and other educational and training institutions, including industrial establishments providing apprentice or other training on the job. Permits taking of short, intensive courses costing up to \$500, with a proportionate reduction in the veterans' period of eligibility.

4. *Expenses Paid*—The Veterans' Administration will pay to the educational or training institution the customary cost of tuition, and such laboratory, library, infirmary, and similar payments as are customarily charged, and may pay for books, supplies, equipment and such other necessary expenses (exclusive of board, lodging, other living expenses and travel) as are required. Such payments shall not exceed \$500 for an ordinary school year. Permits veterans to take correspondence courses at government expense.

5. *Living Allowances*—The Veterans' Administration will also provide subsistence allowance of \$65 a month if you have no dependents, \$90 if you have. (This may be reduced, however, if you attend on a part-time basis or receive compensation for work done as part of your training.)

You may also want to apply for school or college credit for what you learned in the service—or a record of it to show your

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prospective employer. For information and application blank, write to:

Army..... U. S. Armed Forces Institute, Madison  
3, Wisconsin  
Navy..... Bureau of Naval Personnel, Navy Department, Washington 25, D. C.  
Marine Corps..... Marine Corps Institute, Marine Barracks, Washington 25, D. C.  
Coast Guard..... U. S. Coast Guard Headquarters, Washington 25, D. C.

6. No deductions from any future bonus payments for benefits received under the G. I. Bill of Rights.

7. *How to Apply*—Apply through Rehabilitation Section of the local Veterans' Administration or through Veteran Advisors at school or institution which you decide to attend. If you follow this latter procedure, in all probability, you will be allowed to matriculate and attend classes while your application is pending.

#### l. Hospital Care

If you should ever need hospital care for a disability incurred in line of duty in the service, it will be provided upon request to the Veterans' Administration. You may also be given free transportation to the hospital.

If your illness is not due to service, you may get hospitalization if a bed is available and you are financially unable to pay the cost yourself.

#### m. Medical Attention

If you need medical service or dental care not requiring hospitalization, it will be provided by the Veterans' Administration if the condition was caused or aggravated in line of duty by your service. Medicine, appliances, bridgework, etc., are included.

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#### n. Disability Pensions

If you are discharged from the armed forces with a disability due to service, you may be entitled to disability benefits including a pension. The amount payable runs from \$11.50 a month for 10% disability up to \$115 a month for 100% disability. In addition there are special rates and allowances for specific injuries, and more seriously disabling conditions. Apply through the Veterans' Administration, local Red Cross Chapter or Veterans' organization in your community.

#### o. Care in National Soldiers' Homes

A veteran who is so disabled as to be unable to earn a living, and is without adequate means of support, may apply for admission to one of the numerous National Soldiers' Homes for disabled, located throughout the country, where former members of the armed forces may live and receive care. For addresses of Homes nearest you write to Veterans' Administration, Washington 25, D. C.

#### p. Legal Protection

In general, the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act protects service men and women up to 6 months after their discharge by making it possible for the courts to suspend enforcement of certain civil liabilities during that time, such as—

Law suits for collection debts	Eviction of dependents for
Contracts	non-payment of rent
Repossession of property	Rights in public lands
Collection of certain taxes	Insurance premiums
Sale of property for taxes	

Legal counsel, without charge, is available to service personnel through State Chairmen of the American Bar Association, or you may consult your local Selective Service Board, Red Cross or Legal Aid Society, N.A.A.C.P. Legal Redress Committee.

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#### g. Income Tax

In some cases, Federal and State laws provide for deferral or adjustment of tax payments by veterans. For information on Federal income tax and other Federal taxes, go to the nearest office of the Collector of Internal Revenue. Your own State Tax Commission at the State capital will answer questions about State income tax and other State taxes.

#### i. Assistance with Special Problems

There are in most communities agencies organized to meet special needs which arise from time to time for financial assistance, medical care, legal aid, or other personal problems. For advice in such situations, apply to your county welfare office, local chapter of the Red Cross, or the Veterans Information Service Center. Information and advice may also be obtained at military installations from the Army's Personal Affairs Officers, the Navy's Civil Readjustment Officers and the Marine Corps' Rehabilitation Officers or the Veterans' Committee of the local Branch of the N.A.A.C.P.

#### s. Claims for Back Pay

Army inquiries should be addressed to the Finance Officer of the Camp in the United States from which discharged or transferred to the Enlisted Reserve Corps. Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard inquiries should be addressed to the Claims Division, General Accounting Office, Washington 25, D. C. Be sure to print full name and serial or service number.

#### t. Review of Discharges

If you feel that your military service justified a more favorable discharge or dismissal than you received you may at any time within 15 years after receipt of such discharge or dismissal or the end of World War II, whichever is later, request and receive a review of it, unless you were discharged

or dismissed by general court-martial sentence. Subject to approval by the Secretary of War or of the Navy, the reviewing board may change or modify a discharge or issue a new one, if evidence warrants. Apply to the Adjutant General, United States Army, Washington, D. C. if you were a member of the Army and if a former member of the Navy, Marine Corps or Coast Guard apply to Navy Department, Bureau of Personnel, Washington, D. C. For further information or instructions consult your local NAAACP Branch Veterans' Committee.

#### u. Review of Retirement

Any officer retired or released to inactive service without pay because of physical disability has the right (within 15 years) to request review of the retiring board's decision. Apply to your own branch of service.

#### v. Lapel Buttons

All those who served honorably in the armed forces of the United States on or after September 8, 1939, are entitled to wear the lapel button that signified such service. If you did not get this button when discharged, it will be issued to you, free, upon presentation of your discharge certificate or other certificate of service at most military and naval installations.

#### w. Wearing Uniform After Discharge

You are entitled to wear your uniform from the place where you receive your discharge to your home, provided that the distinctive mark required by certain branches of the service to designate ex-servicemen be worn as directed and provided that you go there within three months of the discharge date. You may also wear your uniform on ceremonial occasions. In such cases you wear the uniform in the highest rank or grade that you held during the war.

#### x. Burial

A sum not exceeding \$100 may be allowed on the burial, funeral, and transportation expenses of any deceased veteran of any war discharged under other than dishonorable conditions, a veteran discharged for disability incurred in line of duty or a veteran receiving pension for service-connected disability. Application should be made to the Veterans' Administration.

Men and women dying in the service of the United States in the armed forces and veterans whose last discharge was honorable are eligible for burial in a national cemetery. Apply to the Superintendent of National Cemeteries.

Headstones are supplied for veterans, without charge, upon application to the Quartermaster General, U. S. Army, War Department, Washington 25, D. C. In most cases, an American flag for draping the casket may be obtained from the Veterans' Administration or any county seat postmaster.

### III. BENEFITS FOR DEPENDENTS

#### a. Jobs for Dependents

Special attention and assistance will be given by the local offices of the United States Employment Service and local Veterans' Employment Representatives to members of veterans' families seeking suitable employment.

Wives and widows of disabled veterans are given certain preferences for positions in the U. S. Civil Service.

#### b. Pensions and Dependents

When a member or former member of the armed forces dies of a service-connected disability, his widow, children, and dependent parents may file a claim for pension with the Veterans' Administration. A veteran's own pension for disability is not continued after his death.

#### c. Social Security Benefits

In the event of the death of a member or former member of the armed forces who had had civilian employment in private business or industry, survivors insurance benefits may be payable on his social security account. The next of kin should inquire immediately at the nearest Social Security Board office.

#### d. Government Insurance

When a veteran dies, the Director of Insurance, Veterans' Administration, should be notified immediately so that all questions of insurance can be settled promptly.

Upon the death of a person who carried Government insurance, the Veterans' Administration when notified will forward the necessary blanks to the beneficiary. In the case of National Service Life Insurance, payments will be made by the Veterans' Administration, not in one lump sum but in 240 equal monthly payments if the beneficiary is under 30 years of age; or in equal monthly installments for life if beneficiary is 30 or over.

#### e. Dependents of Veterans Receiving Vocational Training

The pension of a disabled veteran who is receiving vocational training may, in some cases, be increased on account of a wife, husband, children or dependent parents.

#### f. Disabled Dependents

Any disabled dependent of employable age with a vocational handicap may secure through the State Rehabilitation Agency special training and other services necessary to prepare him for a job. Apply to your State Board of Vocational Education, or inquire at the nearest United States Employment Service office as to the location of the State Rehabilitation Agency.

#### g. Six Months' Death Gratuity

When a member of the armed forces dies while in service, and not as a result of own misconduct, the widow receives a cash payment equal to six months' pay; if no widow, payment is made to the children; if no widow or children, payment is made to the dependent relative named. If no beneficiary has been named, a claim blank is mailed only upon request from a qualified relative. Inquiries should be addressed to the particular service of which the serviceman or woman was a member; Army, Navy, Marine Corps or Coast Guard. Recipients of this benefit are not eligible to receive muster-out pay.

#### h. Back Pay

The balance of any pay account remaining due a person who dies while in service will be paid to the next of kin. Proper forms for filing this claim can be secured from the service involved, but actual payment is handled by the Claims Division, General Accounting Office, Washington 25, D. C. to which any further inquiry should be made after claim is filed.

Unpaid portions of muster-out pay may be claimed by a surviving spouse; if none, by surviving children; if no surviving children, by a surviving parent or parents.

#### i. Allotments and Allowances

All allotments and family allowances are discontinued upon report of death of men or women in the armed service. If there is any question concerning allotments, write to Office of Dependency Benefits, Newark, N. J.

#### j. Prisoners of War and Missing in Action

As long as a service man or woman is a prisoner of war or is interned in a neutral country or is listed as "missing" or "missing in action," dependents will continue to receive family

allowances as previously, and any allotments that are for their support and have been so designated.

#### k. Burial

When an enlisted man or officer is eligible for burial in a national cemetery, arrangements may be made under certain circumstances for the burial with him of his wife or widow, and in some of these cemeteries, for the burial of minor children and unmarried adult daughters.

### IV. SOME HELPFUL SUGGESTIONS

a. In correspondence with any branch of the service or with the Veterans' Administration or other organizations, the veteran's full name, birth date, rank or rating, and serial, service or file number should be given. Also, any other information that will be helpful such as the number of his insurance policy if the correspondence concerns insurance, and so on. This will result in faster action for all concerned.

b. Social Security—If you had a Social Security card before entering the service, locate it now so you will have it ready to show your employer upon return to work. You will need it if your job is in private business or industry. If you had a card but cannot find it now apply for a duplicate. So that the new card will have the same Social Security number as the card originally issued you. Apply to the nearest Social Security Board office or to the Social Security Board, Candler Building, Baltimore, Maryland. If you can supply the number which was on your original card, a duplicate can be issued to you more quickly.

c. Records—Gather together all the important records that you may need and have them in a safe place where you can get them quickly when needed.

d. Record Discharge Papers.

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**N.A.A.C.P. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

N.A.A.C.P.  
20 West 40th Street  
New York 18, New York

I wish to  make a contribution  
to  become a member  and enclose

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY AND STATE \_\_\_\_\_

Memberships are: Minimum, \$1; Annual with The Crisis Magazine, \$2.50; Sustaining, \$5; Sponsor, \$10; Contributing Member, \$25; Donor, \$100; Life Membership, \$500.

(Checks if sent directly to New York should be made payable to Mary White Ovington, treasurer. If membership is taken in local branch, check should be given or sent to the proper local officer.)