

Say Girl Raped

3/20/48

CRESCENT CITY, Fla.—The Florida State Conference of the NAACP has reported another case in which a Negro girl was raped by a white man. The victim in this case is Miss Lena Mae Brown, 16, who was employed as a maid by Mrs. Jack Robinson of Crescent City. The alleged attack was made by Harold Edge.

THREATENED WITH KNIFE

According to Miss Brown's testimony, this incident occurred on Feb. 17. At that time Miss Brown was at the Richardson home taking care of Bobby Richardson, a three-year-old son. It is alleged that Harold Edge went to the Richardson home during the absence of Mrs. Richardson, threatened the Negro girl with a knife and forced her to submit to his wishes.

As soon as possible, Miss Brown reported the incident to Mrs. Richardson, her white employer. The matter was reported to local officials and Edge was arrested the same day. Negro citizens of Crescent City are somewhat in the dark as to what disposition is being made of this case, but the rumor is that Edge has been released from jail.

NAACP INVESTIGATES

At the instigation of the local branch, an investigation of this matter was made by Harry T. Moore, executive secretary of the NAACP in Florida, and plans are being made to employ a lawyer to help prosecute the case.

This is the second rape case that has been taken up by the NAACP in Florida during the past few months. Legal action by Florida branches of the NAACP recently resulted in the conviction of two white men who made attacks on two Negro school girls near Chipley last summer.

7/2/49

NAACP BRANCHES HOLD DISTRICT MEETING IN FT. LAUDERDALE

On Monday night, June 13th, representatives from NAACP branches on the Lower East Coast of Florida held a district meeting in the Annex of Mt. Hermon AME Church, Ft. Lauderdale. This was their second "get together" of the year, as representatives from these same branches had joined with the Ft. Lauderdale Branch in a big mass meeting in Piney Grove Baptist Church on May 22nd, when an inspiring address was delivered by Harry T. Moore, executive secretary of the State Conference.

The meeting on June 13th was called to discuss plans whereby the branches of the Lower East Coast can co-operate in promoting the work of the NAACP. Devotional services were led by Rev. G. W. Butler, president of the Coconut Grove Branch, after which the executive secretary stated the purpose of the meeting.

The first question up for discussion was the financial setup of the N. A. A. C. P. The secretary explained that the Association has a large staff of full-time secretaries and lawyers to carry on its work, and that much of the money paid in for memberships is needed to maintain this staff. It also was revealed that the State Conference must be supported primarily by the branches in the state, as the National Office will contribute to the Conference a maximum of only 10 cents per member state tax, provided the branches send in a similar amount with their reports. The secretary's report showed that the total amount received from this source last year was only \$791.72. In view of these facts, it was agreed that the NAACP

cannot operate on membership fees alone, and that branches must try to raise additional funds to help carry on the work of the Association.

The delegates offered practical suggestions designed to help the branches raise their financial quota for operation of the State Conference. It was agreed that the branches in the district would visit and help each other in their fund-raising efforts. The branches also agreed to hold a big "union meeting" every quarter, at which time the branch reporting the largest amount of money would be awarded the district NAACP banner.

The district was formally organized with the following officers: chairman, Rev. J. E. Thompson, Pompano; vice chairman, Clayton Taylor of Ft. Lauderdale; secretary Mrs. R. L. Brady of Miami.

Closing remarks were made by Rev. S. H. Hunter, local pastor, who declared that the NAACP is doing more for the advancement of Negroes than any other organization on record. Rev. Hunter declared that his church is available to the NAACP at any time, and he pledged his full cooperation in any effort to build up the Association in this area.



6/17/44 Bulletin

NAACP Makes Progress In Florida; N. W. Griffin Visiting Branches

We are pleased to note that the work of the NAACP is making steady progress in Florida. When the Florida State Conference held its second annual session in October, 1941, there were only 9 active branches in the state. Today Florida has 28 branches scattered from Key West to Pensacola.

The recently appointed State Conference Speakers' Bureau is already producing good results. Three new branches were organized during the month of May. Top honors go to Mr. Milton P. Rooks of Clearwater, who has helped to organize branches at Clearwater and Tarpon Springs. Mr. Rooks reports that the Clearwater branch now has over 215 members. Rev. James W. Williams of Ft. Pierce, also reports the organization of a new branch at Vero Beach with 54 members. Rev. Williams is now working on a new branch at Gifford. Rev. R. H. Johnson of Orange County hopes to complete the organization of branches in Lake County and Old Town within the next few days. Other members of the Speakers' Bureau are expected to make reports on their activities in the near future. The Florida branches are now busy with their annual membership campaigns. Lake Wales, DeSoto county, Orange county, Brevard county and Ft. Pierce have reported good progress with their drives. We sincerely hope that every branch in the state will reach, or exceed, its membership quota.

Mr. N. W. Griffin, formerly president of the Florida State Teachers' Association, and now assistant field secretary of the NAACP, is now visiting branches in Florida. Mr. Griffin has just completed a successful tour of Georgia and South Carolina, and he is putting forth every effort to help us reach our goal in Florida. We urge both religious and civic leaders over the state to lend us their full cooperation in this noble effort.

'Private Primary a Must'--Mathews; 'Free Ballot Necessary,' Says Gray

By CALVIN E. ADAMS

JACKSONVILLE—Primary elections, separated from financing and control by the State, is the only measure "to save the Southern civilization, ideals and institutions," according to State Senator John E. Mathews' stand. Opposed to the idea is Secretary of State Robert A. Gray who claimed such an act is a "subterfuge" which destroys the "vitality of the free ballot." These views were given the joint discussion sponsored by the Duval County League of Women Voters in the Silver Room of the Seminole Hotel here last week.

Nearly 300 people from all over the State were present to try to get a clear picture of the bill which Mathews intends to present to the State Legislature when it convenes in April. Following the debate which was broadcast over Radio Station WJFL, the audience was permitted to question the participants.

HOPES TO PASS BILL

The proposal to deny the State control of the primaries is the play of the Senator from Duval County, John E. Mathews. Last year he attempted to present this same measure to the solons but it was voted out. For the second time Senator Mathews is attempting to cram this bill down the people's throats.

He has proposed to kill all existing laws and statutes pertaining to primary elections and give this right to private associations. Mathews claims that such a bill is necessary to prevent "bloc voting of Negroes under the domination of the Communist-inspired CIO and other subversive groups." Such a bill would give the Democratic party the right to exclude Negroes from voting in the primaries.

Gray, who made it clear that he agreed with Mathews in opposing the groups attacked by the latter, said he would rather bear what we have than to fly to others that we know nothing of. He emphasized that full confidence of the citizens in the fairness of the primary was essential to democracy in Florida, and that such a firm belief in them could not be maintained if primaries were no longer under the eye of public officials.

He stressed further that this was a "must" by reason of the fact that nomination in a State Democratic primary is equivalent to election.

GRAY STANDS BY LAW

Each party should have the right to exclude from its primaries all those who do not subscribe to its principles. Negroes have always been Republicans and they should not be permitted to vote in Democratic primaries, the Senator said in reply to Gray's point.

Mathews cited the election of Governor Sidney J. Catts on the Prohibition ticket and several members of the Legislature in 1929 and 1931, and one in the present Legislature, in an effort to strengthen his denial.

Gray's argument was from an entirely legal standpoint and at no time did he imply personal opinion. He did, however, call the Supreme Court's decision which stated that Negroes must be permitted to vote in State-controlled elections, as "regrettable."

Gray expressed his sincere belief that the Federal Courts would not uphold any election system which admitted to the general election ballot nominees of parties which discriminated against Negroes. Citing the measure of South Carolina, Alabama and Georgia, which prohibits Negroes from voting, Gray



SCOUTMASTER RECEIVES HIGH H. Wynn, Scoutmaster of Apalachicola, is awarded the Silver Beaver award for service to the Boy Scouts. He has been in Troop 114 for eight years, and is the first two boys to join the first troop in the city. Left to right, Scoutmaster Wynn, and...

elections, the Secretary of State said it was not clear where the real control of the parties would lie under the "private" system, who would be responsible the calling of conventions, and whether "some other yardstick besides color" might not come to be used under the "private" system to the detriment of the free expression of the public will.

FORUM STALLS MATHEWS

The expense of holding a State-wide election would be a heavy one for any private association to bear, Gray asserted. He said he had heard it suggested that the parties could lease or borrow election machines belonging to the State or the counties, but he doubted whether such a use would be legal.

Walter Marshall in the Forum part of the debate asked Mathews "I wish you would tell me how you recognize your racial thinking as either Christianity or democracy?"

"I don't think that Christianity has anything to do with the discussion. God made Caucasians white and the other race black, and if He wanted them to be white, He would have made them white. It is contrary to the thinking of God, if the black race is trying to be white," was Mathews' answer.

STAPLES

Negro Vote Swings Florida 'Greatest' Gubernatorial Election

Over 30,000 Voted For Fuller Warren; Winner by 22,000 Votes

MIAMI, Fla.—In a close race for the governorship of Florida, Fuller Warren received over 30,000 Negro votes and won the election by approximately 21,000 votes.

Warren was endorsed by the Progressive Voters League of Florida, an organization commanding a large percentage of Negro voters and whose executive secretary is militant Harry T. Moore of Miami, Florida. He was also endorsed by several Negro organizations and influential Negroes.

In tipping the political scale in favor of Warren, the Negroes were not, however, influenced by any love offer from Warren, but instead by the cold shoveler they received from Warren's opponent, Dan McCarthy. McCarthy refused to see Negro groups and refused to authorize any advertisement in Negro Negro newspapers.

Warren Co-operated.
Warren, on the other hand, met with Negro groups for interviews, and cooperated with the Negro press in advertising and publicity.

Unlike Georgia's recent gubernatorial election, in the Florida campaign there were no racial issues whatsoever. Both candidates agreed clear of that phase of the State's or Nation's problems.

The institution.

Funeral services for the deceased were held Thursday, June 3rd, 1948, from Trinity Methodist Church, 5th St. E. and Douglass Avenue, this city, at which time her pastor, the Rev. S. D. Bankston, for many years delivered the eulogy.

The Civil War Era Home was in charge of the arrangements, the family, according to request, made by the late Mrs. Andrews, some time prior to her death, a stipend that no lower contributions be made.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of our dear mother, MRS. DELIA BOWEN DEWITT, who departed this life June 6, 1936.

Rest that dwelleth in the Secret Place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

Sadly missed by your loved ones Mrs. Gertrude D. Walden
Daughter
Mr. T. R. Dowdell, Son

Rev. H. Kinsey To Conduct Revival Meeting Here

Funeral services for the deceased were held Thursday, June 3rd, 1948, from Trinity Methodist Church, 5th St. E. and Douglass Avenue, this city, at which time her pastor, the Rev. S. D. Bankston, for many years delivered the eulogy.

Say You Saw It In
The Florida News

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

All Master Masons, Eastern Stars, Heroines of Jericho, Royal Arch Masons, Knights of Templar and Shriners are hereby notified that

ST. JOHN'S DAY PROGRAM

will be held at

New Bethel Baptist Church
Ninth Street

Sunday, June 20, 1948, 3:00 p.m.

All concerned are requested to meet at
PARISH HALL, 416 N. S. Street
Sunday, June 20

Warren called the 'Caldwell Com-
bine'
Lambaste, Caldwell

The incumbent Governor, Mil-
lard F. Caldwell, is an advocate of
the regional school program, and
is against President Truman's pro-
posed civil rights legislation. War-
ren charged that Caldwell was as-
saulting McGarty in an effort to
retain control of the government
of Florida. Fuller Warren, the
opponent, accordingly, lambasted
Caldwell in his heated campaign.

A total of 69,000 Negroes had
registered to vote for the Demo-
crats; over 40,000 voted, about
10,000 for McGarty and over
30,000 for Fuller Warren. Ne-
groes, therefore, made their voting
power felt in a big way. By
pulling together even though it
was not a 100 per cent unity they
were able to swing the election to
victory for the candidate to whom
most of them gave their votes.

It was the greatest political op-
portunity that Florida Negro citi-
zens ever enjoyed. They respon-
ded to their well meaning leaders
and as a result accomplished what
seemed impossible four years ago.

Mrs. Lillian Andrews Claimed By Death

(Continued from Page 11)

May 24, the deceased following
her operation, succumbed five
days to the time of her an- n- n- g

Church Monday night, June 7,
1948. Rev. Kinsey is pastor of
one of the leading Churches at
Fallsbasee, Florida. He is a
powerful preacher. Come out and

S. W. R. A.
Pride of Pa.

LEE BARRY

Born With Strange Power. Why Go Through Life Unhappy?

YOUR FUTURE

do you need money, love, success and
happiness, see me today. All busi-
ness, private and strictly confidential
the skeptical are especially invited.



True advice saves many dollars and
many worries. Before making any
changes, consult me at once! No
problem is too difficult for me to solve.
A true psychic is born and not made.
I not only tell you your troubles, but
help you out of them. I am
different from all others!

I bring together or separate the one
you desire at once! I will help you
no matter who or what you are, to
what you hope, fear or fantasies may
be! I will tell you if your sickness
be natural or unnatural.

PSYCHIC
Reading
READING \$2.00

I will give you your Lucky Day and Lucky Number

Open Daily and Sunday from 9:00 A. M. to 8:00 P. M.

CLOSED SATURDAY AND TUESDAY

City bus to Riviera Brevard, 10 minutes. Take bus and ride until the bus turns to go down to bridge. Get off the
bus after it makes the turn and go down to the bridge and walk down the highway going north for two blocks
and notice the sign, "PSYCHIC LEE BARRY" on the right.

RIVIERA BEACH, FLORIDA

Phone 212

THOSE WHOM THE GODS WOULD DESTROY, THEY WOULD FIRST MAKE MAD'

By DEWEY A. RICHARDSON

A few weeks ago an article appeared in one of our weekly papers under the caption, "Voters League Confusion" referring to me in the article and I quote, "Rev. J. W. Rhodes suggested the name of the new city-wide chairman, and Mr. Richardson was voted in. This move completed the setting up of an independent voters league in Tampa. This group according to Mr. Richardson holds a charter granted from some headquarters in Washington, D. C., office address never given."

Before replying to this insinuation I would like to have you understand the top quotation. In Rome during the hectic days of the Roman Empire, when Christians were being persecuted for organizing the Christian church, according to history, certain Emperors would torture the Christians before sicking the hungry lions on them, trying to justify themselves before the people for their transactions. "Those whom the Gods would destroy."

I wish the writer would tell the whole truth in his article. He doesn't say that when we formed the policy committee of 25 representatives, five from each branch of the five branches of the Tampa Progressive Voters league, and by-laws were read to him call a general mass meeting for us, dictating what our policy should be, he started to fighting, using two organizations of which this writer is identified, to start his fighting by not telling the truth, if he had the interest of the Negroes of Tampa at heart and was for the advancement of the Negro and after he had seen over four thousand Negro citizens registered for the city primary election while he sat idly by and doing nothing but the work of a spy, hoping to see us make a mistake so he could be the first to criticize failing in this attempt, he then tried another one of his schemes by appointing an investigating committee through which he tried to split up our organization through malicious propaganda, failing in this attempt he switched to another organization wearing two hats, under one face and prepared the truth and he won't tell the truth now.

I wish the writer would tell the whole truth, but being an antagonist and a destruction maker who tried to prevent the people from assembling in a general mass meeting to adopt the by-laws of the Tampa Progressive Voters League which was unanimously accepted by the people, he tried another scheme at which he is grand master at twisting the truth, and has no respect for the high altered position for which he now holds.

We have a letter addressed to me as chairman of the Tampa units, from Mr. Harry T. Moore of Mims, Fla. State Secretary of the Progressive voters league of the state of Florida, and I quote, "It is encouraging to note, and also to know that the Negro leaders of Tampa got together on the candidates to be endorsed, and that the full strength of

SENTINEL—Florida's Foremost

VOTERS LEAGUE TO MEET IN SANFORD

The Progressive Voters' League of the Fifth District will meet at the 13th Street K. of P. Hall in Sanford, Saturday, Sept. 23, at 10 A. M.

Reports of our activities leading up to the recent primaries will be made, and plans pertaining to the coming General Election will be discussed. Election of district officers for the new year will also be held.

You are urged to come and help build up a strong organization in the Fifth District. Every county in the district should be represented.

Sincerely yours,
C. T. Williams, district chairman
Harry T. Moore, executive secretary.

Recent developments have tended to prove that it was wiser for us to concentrate our present energies on the drive to secure the Democratic ballot for Negro voters. As we expected, several counties have been reluctant to register Negroes as Democrats. Two years ago, as you remember, Negroes in Dixie County could not register even for the General Election. We have enlisted the support of Attorney General Watson, and we feel confident that his influence in our behalf has done much to loosen up the registrars in some counties. Negroes in Dixie, Taylor, Suwannee, Washington, and other West Florida counties are being registered as Democrats. Brevard seems to be the only county that is still holding out, and court action is being brought there by the local NAACP Branch.

Sincerely yours,
HARRY T. MOORE,
Executive Secretary Progressive
Voters' League of Florida.

the Tampa Negro voters was thrown behind the endorsed candidates. That is the way it should be done. In unity there is strength, if our leaders can get together the masses of our people will follow." I wonder if the writer of the "Voters League Confusion in Tampa" article will heed Mr. Harry T. Moore's advice, given in his letter and written to the Tampa Progressive voters league.

(Continued Next Week)

An Open Letter

TO FLORIDA NEGRO VOTERS

Mims, Florida

March 22, 1946

Dear Co-workers:

On March 16 we read an article in the Tampa Bulletin which seemed to carry the impression that certain leaders of the Progressive Voters' League have made some kind of deal with the State Democratic Committee, with reference to the proposed jim-crew voting plan. This charge was directed against Milton P. Rooks, E. E. Broughton, and C. Blythe Andrews. This article appeared as a re-print paid for by the City-wide Voters' League of Tampa.

We are surprised to hear such a charge against Blythe Andrews, because we are reminded of the strong editorial that the Florida Sentinel carried against the jim-crew plan as soon as it was announced. We have been closely associated with Mr. Broughton for about three years. We have found him to be a quiet, conscientious worker, who seems to be deeply interested in the welfare of his race. We feel confident that Mr. Broughton would not be a part of any kind of deal that he thought would be contrary to the best interest of our group.

When the Progressive Voters' League met in Orlando on Feb. 16, Mr. Broughton submitted an oral report of his conference with Attorney General Tom Watson and members of the State Democratic Executive Committee in Tampa. Then the question of the proposed jim-crew voting plan was brought up and discussed at length. It was quite apparent that the majority opposed the jim-crew plan. The only question involved was the best procedure for combatting it. Some expressed the opinion that many counties would find separate voting booths too expensive. Some suggested that we ask for Negro clerks, if separate booths were not provided. Others reminded us that we did not yet have a firm grip on the Democratic Primary ballot—that we just had one foot in the door. Therefore, if we should start too much kicking now, we might spill some of the milk that we had already secured. The majority finally decided that it would be wiser to wait and see if the jim-crew plan will actually be put into effect before we resort to any drastic action against it. However, the League did adopt a resolution expressing disapproval of the jim-crew plan.

SUNNYBOY—

BOY! WHAT AN OLD FASHION WANTED

YOU DON'T SEEM AT ALL CONCERNED

PDL Aid Offered Citizens

By CALVIN E. ADAMS

MIMS—Registration books are already open in some counties. In other counties the books will open around Feb. 1. So let's get busy and help to work up a heavy registration of Negro voters in Florida this year. Go to the books as early as possible.

"If any official refuses to register you as a Democrat, please notify us. Or, if you have any trouble in your effort to register and vote, we shall be glad to lend you any assistance possible," urged Harry T. Moore, executive secretary, Progressive Voters' League in an open letter to race citizens last week.

Ever persistent in his efforts to get as many Negroes qualified to participate in Democratic primaries throughout the State, Mr. Moore made clear the seriousness of the full participation in the coming elections. His letter opened by saying:

PERIOD VITAL

"We are now entering what promises to be a period of great political activity among American citizens. The Presidential election this year will probably be the most hotly contested one since Theodore Roosevelt split the Republican party back in 1912. Negro citizens all over America should be deeply interested in this campaign.

"But as important as the Presidential election is, we must not overlook the fact that the election of State and county officials is of equal importance. These are the officials who have direct control of our every-day affairs. Most Negroes in Florida today have never seen a President.

"But practically all of us know our tax collector, our sheriff and our county judge. We know the circuit judge, the State attorney and the clerk of the court because we often have to come in contact with these officials."

Further stressing the importance of full participation in all elections, the Voters' League executive secretary wrote:

CITIZENS WELFARE

"The safety and welfare of Florida's Negro citizens depend very largely upon the attitudes of our sheriffs, judges and other law en-

forcement officials. It was the sheriff of Madison County who permitted the lynching of Jesse James Payne in 1945. It was a Suwannee County constable who made a Negro prisoner (Sam A. McFadden) jump into the river at Branford two years ago.

"It was the sheriff of Gadsden County who carried Leroy Bradwell, Negro veteran of Midway, away from his mother's home one night in January, 1946. (Bradwell's people have not seen or heard from him since.) And may we remind you that it was the Governor of Florida who refused to exercise his authority and suspend these county officers for their failure to protect the lives of the helpless Negro prisoners."

Still militantly attacking the injustices done the race all over the State, Mr. Moore's letter said:

"Florida Negro citizens also should be deeply concerned about the inequalities in our educational system. Is it fair for a county school to buy new seats for the auditorium of a white elementary school and then let the poor Negro teachers raise money to buy the seats for the auditorium of the Negro high school in that same town? Is it fair to pay Negro teachers several hundred dollars less than they pay white teachers with the same training and experience?"

REGISTER DEMOCRATIC

"In other paragraphs Mr. Moore cited incidents which have not been even mentioned by those in authority. He also pointed out the need for more of the race to become conscious of their responsibilities as citizens of the USA. To get this fact over as vividly as possible, he said:

"Fellow citizens, we must get prepared to help elect these State and county officials. No matter what our party affiliations have been, we must face the facts. The officials mentioned above will be elected in the Democratic primaries on May 4 and May 25. Do not be misled. The Democratic primary is the election in Florida.

That is why the NAACP has spent thousands of dollars in court fights to open up Democratic primaries to Negro voters in the South.

SALENT FACTS

"In its recent report, the President's Committee on Civil Rights has frankly stated that in the Southern States, the Democratic primary is the only election of any significance. So remember these four facts:

- (1) If you want to help elect your State and county officials, you must vote in Democratic primaries.
- (2) Before you can vote in Democratic primaries, you must register as a Democrat.
- (3) If you have been registered under the name of some other party, you must go to the books and have registration changed to 'Democrat.'
- (4) Registering as a Democrat

Cites Need For Greater Financing

By CALVIN E. ADAMS

MIMS—Florida cannot afford to fall under its quota of 25,000 members for 1947. Surely 25,000 Florida citizens are willing to endorse the great work of the NAACP by taking out a membership this year, declared Harry T. Moore, executive secretary, Florida State Conference NAACP in his annual report to branches.

Realizing that eight months had passed since a formal report had been made by the conference, and that the employment of a full time executive secretary for the body had just begun, Mr. Moore felt the need for issuing a report to members.

Speaking of the work being done by the NAACP throughout the State, and of the youth program, the executive secretary stated:

WORK EXPANDING

"Our work in Florida has continued to grow during those eight months. Whereas on Nov. 1 there were sixty-one branches in Florida, we now have seventy-one branches in this State. Among the branches recently organized are, Apopka, Oakland, Crescent City, Plant City, Crystal River, Lakeland, Sarasota, Greenville (Madison County), and Eatonville.

Inverness now has its quota of fifty members, and we hope to complete the organization of the branch there next week. Seeds have been planted in several other communities, and it is our hope that these will soon develop favorably.

"Our youth work is also taking on new life. The Florida A. and M. and the Bethune-Cookman College chapters have been revived, and several new youth councils have been organized. Among these are West Palm Beach, Fort Lauderdale, Titusville, Pompano, Orlando, St. Petersburg, Fruitland Park and Panama City. Florida now has eighteen chartered youth groups.

"We cannot over-emphasize the importance of our youth work. The future success of this great organization will depend, in a large measure, upon the young people whom we can train now to carry on when we have passed off the stage of action. Every branch should organize a youth council. You need only twenty-five young people under 25 years of age to get a charter for a youth council."

college chapter. We suggest that you appoint a committee now to work on this project.

For the May primaries will not keep you from voting for the Presidential candidate of your choice when the general election is held the same in November and you may in November. All ballots will be vote as you please then."

—END JIM POW IN MIMS



SO
THEY
TELL
ME
2/16/48

By C. BLYTHE ANDREWS

Negroes of Florida, little by little, are awakening to the vital importance of registering as Democrats.

Already Democratic Clubs have been organized at Jacksonville and Miami. Others are on the way.

There is a movement, led by clever politicians, to sabotage this exodus to the Democratic party. It has taken the form of castigating and slandering the Democratic leaders.

The die-hard Republicans see in this new program a bad day for themselves. They are Republicans for revenue only, and some of them are financially backed by white Republicans. They would sell the whole race for a mess of buzzard for themselves.

We have heard enough about Lincoln and the Republican party and what it did to free the Negro. We have long ago paid that debt. We owe something to ourselves and our children.

If we would improve our streets, our schools, our economic condition in the towns and cities where we live, we must help to elect the men and women who run those towns and cities. They are Democrats, and we must vote in the Democratic primary to help them, or hurt them.

This is elementary, but the die-hard Republicans have drawn veils over their eyes and refuse to see it. They see only the possibility of attending the Republican conventions and dragging down a few bucks here and there as stooges of some white Republican leaders.

Too long have we had men in the lead who would sell the race for their personal aggrandizement. We must strike them down and keep them buried in the filth of their own making.

The problem before the Democratic clubs, before these enlightened leaders of this new day, are many and grave, and upon their proper solution depends whether we shall remain free men and women or return to political bondage.

Floridians Urged to Become Interested in Political Campaign

Mims, Florida, Jan. 10, 1948.

An Open Letter To Florida Negro Citizens:

We are now entering what promises to be a period of great political activity among American citizens. The presidential election this year will probably be the most hotly contested one since Theodore Roosevelt split the Republican Party back in 1880. Negro citizens all over America should be deeply interested in this campaign.

But as important as the presidential election is, we must not overlook the fact that the election of state and county officials is of equal importance to us. These are the officials who have direct control of our every-day affairs. Most Negroes in Florida today have never seen a president. But practically all of us know our tax collector, our sheriff, and our county judge. We know the circuit judge, the state attorney, and the clerk of the court, because we often have to come in contact with these officials.

The safety and welfare of Florida Negro citizens depend very largely upon the attitudes of our sheriffs, judges, and other law-enforcement officials. It was the sheriff of Madison County who permitted the lynching of Jesse James Payne in 1945. It was a Suwannee County constable who made a Negro prisoner jump into the river at Branford two years ago. It was the sheriff of Gadsden County who carried Leroy Bradwell, Negro veteran of Midway, away from his mother's home one night in January, 1946. (Bradwell's people have not seen him or heard from him since that night.) And may we remind you that it was the Governor of Florida who refused to exercise his authority and suspend these county officers for their failure to protect the lives of helpless Negro prisoners.

Florida Negro citizens also should be deeply concerned about the inequalities in our educational system. Is it fair for a county school board to buy new seats for the auditorium of a white elementary school and then let the poor Negro teachers raise money to buy seats for the auditorium of the Negro high school in that same town? Is

it fair for county school officials to pay Negro teachers several hundred dollars less than they pay white teachers with the same training and experience?

Fellow citizens, we must get prepared to help elect these state and county officials. We mutter what our party affiliations have been, we must face the facts. The officials mentioned above will be elected in the Democratic primaries on May 4th and May 25th. Be not misled. The Democratic primary is THE ELECTION in Florida. That is why the NAACP has spent thousands of dollars in court fights to open up Democratic primaries to Negro voters in the South. And in its recent report, the President's Committee On Civil Rights has frankly stated that in the Southern States "the Democratic primary is the only election of any significance." So remember these four facts: (1) If you want to help elect your state and county officials, you must vote in the Democratic primaries. (2) Before you can vote in Democratic primaries, you must register as a Democrat. (3) If you have previously registered under the name of some other party, you must go to the books and have your registration changed to "Democrat." (4) Registering as a Democrat for the May primaries will not keep you from voting for the presidential candidate, of your choice when the general election is held in November. All ballots will be the same in November, and you may vote as you please then.

Registration books are already open in some counties. In other counties the books will open around February 1st. So let's get busy and help to work up a heavy registration of Negro voters in Florida this year. Go to the books as early as possible. If any official refuses to register you as a Democrat, please notify us. Or, if you have any trouble in your effort to register and vote, we shall be glad to lend you any assistance possible.

St. Mark Closes Successful Year

ST. MARK A.M.E. CHURCH NEWS

was enjoyed at

10/31/47

AN OPEN LETTER TO FLORIDA NEGRO CITIZENS

We take this opportunity to remind you of the many important elections that are now facing us. Nearly every time you pick up a newspaper there is a notice of some city election, bond election, or school trustee election. And next spring the all-important state and county primaries will be held.

All of these elections are of vital importance to Florida Negro citizens. Don't be misled by those of our own race who say: "Voting is the white man's business; it doesn't concern us." This country is run by politics from top to bottom. The only way for any group of citizens to secure much consideration is through an intelligent use of the ballot. Practically all of the evils and injustices suffered by Negroes in the South can be traced to the fact that we have not been voting in sufficient numbers to exert much influence in the political field.

Florida Negro citizens now face a right political future. Our successful fight against the white primary has opened up the ballot boxes in most counties and cities of Florida. There are

still a few "tough spots," but with a little more initiative on the part of local Negro citizens, these can soon be cleared up. The important question now facing us is this: How shall we use this opportunity to vote that has been won at a cost of thousands of dollars? Shall we get together and vote for the best interest of our community, or shall we loosely cast our votes for candidates who are not favorable to our cause? Fellow citizens, if we would get the best results from our votes, we must get together. There must be greater political unity among us. We must forget our past petty differences and consolidate our political strength. "Big" Negroes and "little" Negroes must learn to work together for the common good. All cannot be leaders; some must be good followers.

The urgent need among Florida Negro citizens today is political organization. If we are to reap the greatest benefits from our new political opportunities, the masses of our people must be organized under one banner. This must be done from a local level up to a state level.

For more than 30 years the NAACP has led this fight for the unrestricted use of the ballot, and the fight still goes on in those communities that seek to restrict Negro suffrage. Ordinarily, it would seem logical for Negro citizens to organize their political strength under this great organization. But the NAACP is not a political organization. Its constitution forbids the endorsement of candidates by its branches.

Fully realizing the need of state-wide political unity among our people, we organized the Progressive Voters' League of Florida back in 1944. The League is now chartered under the laws of Florida. It is our hope that the Progressive Voters' League will provide the political unity and the honest political leadership so badly needed at this time. We must now work hard to get local units of the Voters' League organized in the various communities. There is a small annual membership fee of \$1.00 to help finance the activities of the League. Membership cards are issued to members as they pay this annual fee, which is divided equally between the local units and the State League.

DRENNAN'S CASH STORE

731 N.W. 6th St.

Phone 9367

Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

STAPLE GROCERIES

LUCKEY SPOT

FISH, POULTRY and
GROCERIES

1427 N. W. Fifth Street

FORT LAUDERDALE

P. J. Smith, Prop.

Phone 1486

Sheldon Plans School Trustee Voting Changes

TAMPA, Nov. 27. (P)—Obviously angry over what he called "a lot of red tape which kept many good citizens from voting" in the school trustee election today, State Senator Raymond Sheldon promised a bill to remedy the situation in the 1947 session of the State Legislature.

Wives of taxpayers, Senator Sheldon said, were not allowed to vote in many precincts because wives' names were not on 1944-45 county tax receipts held by husbands, and because women could not produce deeds showing they owned real estate jointly with their husbands.

Senator Sheldon said real estate by no means bears all the burdens in financing operations of Florida's schools.

"Taxes from racing, cigarettes, gasoline and auto tags are used for school purposes. The man who owns no real estate helps finance the schools and I'm going to see that he gets a chance to vote in the district elections."

County Judge John Allison said he advised the County Election Board any resident holding a 1944 or 1945 county tax receipt covering real estate or personal property should be allowed to vote. A wife should be allowed to vote even if her name did not appear on the tax receipt held by her husband, provided she displayed at the polls a deed showing that she and her husband owned property jointly.

In Tampa: 8/7/48

Fight on for Leadership

(Courier Press Service)

TAMPA—A three-year fight for leadership between three factions of Negroes in Tampa and Hillsborough County has resulted in the formation of a fourth political organization this week which was chartered to "assimilate the political, civic, educational, social and economic interests of the race". The organization headed by C. Blight Andrews and Dewey Richardson.

This fight has been particularly keen and highpitched between the clergy, civic and business persons and racketeers. There has been a consistent dickering for power and influence between these factions for a number of years with personalized acclamation as to who should represent the masses in elections and other civic proceedings.

This factional fight has affected the programs of the Mayor's police committee, the NAACP, the Urban League and the Tampa Negro Business League. And a coordination of the forces necessary for adequate approach to race problems has slipped into oblivion.

EFFECTIVE GROUP
The local branch of the Progressive Voters League is suffering disintegration. The league, from a statewide standpoint is one of the most effective organizations in the State concerned with Negro political initiative; but the rule or ruin policy exemplified in Tampa have left this branch's guidance to scattered few ministers and ineffectual civic leaders. The new organization, democratic in affiliation, plans to take over. Its officials, too, at one time, were steerers of the Progressive Voters League here.

Undercurrent prediction is that before the sun rises on the November election dissension will break up this group as have all other attempts to formulate an organizational clearing house for Negro initiative.

The underlying principles behind this prediction combine a policy of hypertheoretical "home" rule and the lack of mass interest in the present self-appointed leadership in the last elections the masses revolted from this leadership and carried their own political banners during the campaign. In this respect candidates for office had to make deals with numerous persons to cover the Negro voters Tampa meadow.

Every group attempted to disqualify every other group and politicians are pulling their hair now in an attempt to diagnose how many political podpies will have to be cooked for the November elections.

There are eight groups working on recreation, seven on political leadership, six on this and that; none on housing; none on job security; none on civil rights, and one on anti-crime. All claim to be the spokesman organization for the masses.

Atty.-General Clarifies Registration

MIMS, Fla.—In an effort to clear up an important question which was brought up during the meeting of the Progressive Voters League here two weeks ago, Harry T. Moore, president of the State NAACP and executive secretary of the League, referred the matter of registering and re-registering to Attorney General Tom Watson for clarification.

The following reply was sent to him for information to all voters of the state.

The Letter

Tallahassee, Florida
February 19, 1946

Mr. Harry T. Moore
Mims, Florida
Dear Moore:

In reply to your letter of February 17, you are entitled to register now while the books are in the hands of the clerks in the precincts, and this includes the right of changing former registration 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 present clerk or to the supervisor of registration of Brevard county.

Very truly yours,
J. Tom Watson
Attorney General

908 Carter St.

WE SERVE
THE BL

Southern Fl
Get Home Co
TILMAN'S VIC
D. Cooter Tillman, Owner

A Portable Public Ad

414 N. Westmoreland

DISCLOSE TAMPA 'DEAL' WITH FLORIDA DEMOCRATS ON JIMCRO VOTE PLAN

ORLANDO, Fla., Mar. 2.—Repercussions of a stormy session held by the Progressive Voters' League here last week included overtures made prior to the Florida Democratic committee in Tampa some weeks ago.

It was reliably reported that President Milton Rooks of the league and Earle E. Broughton of Tampa made a deal with the state Democrats to accept the jimcro vote plan to placate a possible fight against Negro participation in State Democratic primaries.

Confidential information also ties C. Blythe Andrews in on the deal that would sell Negroes down the political ladder.

A deal was partially exposed at the session of the League here last week when efforts were made by a Miami representative to force adoption of a resolution rebuking the jimcro vote plan as unconstitutional.

Acceptors of the jimcro plan attempted to thwart vote on a resolution of condemnation, and responsibility for the jimcro deal between Negroes and whites was levelled at Rooks and Broughton. The session ended with no official action taken.

There is also an undercurrent rumor that the West Palm Beach faction of the league feels this deal was responsible for court action against Negroes' participation in the first city primary election. A West Palm Beach court ruled that Negroes could not participate in the nomination caucus which is actually the first primary.

There was sharp indication that public rebuke against the league's action would influence the West Palm Beach representatives to resign from the league.

Similar placating and pussyfooting with reference to the jimcro vote plan was taken by the Miami Democratic Association upon the occasion of their organization. They hooted down attempts to bring to the floor a vote to offer stiff objection to the plan to have separate voting booths for Negroes and whites.

Symbols of public indignation are adrift throughout the state, but principally in West Palm Beach where some 3,000 Negroes are registered and in Miami where a little over a hundred have qualified to vote, while another plan is on foot to swing Negro support to the CIO's Political Action Committee, which has taken action against the jimcro vote plan. The probability that ministerial support is forthcoming in the PAC move has aroused an uneasy stir within

designated circles of Negro Democrat leadership which has been ineffective in fostering mass registration in some circles.

Especially in Miami have Negroes ignored the plea of Democratic Association leaders under the chairmanship of E. A. Ward, to register. Surprise was evidenced over this trend in Miami because of the past interest manifested in voting. However, the ineffectiveness of the "new" leadership is charged as being responsible for lack of mass interest.

Re-print paid for by the Citywide Voters' League of Tampa.

League Provided Copy of Watson's Ruling on Voting

TALLAHASSEE, Nov. 23. (P)—Attorney General Tom Watson today sent copies of his recent opinion that negroes may vote in Democratic Party Primaries to the Progressive Voters League of Florida, a negro organization, for distribution.

He suggested in a letter to E. E. Broughton of Tampa, chairman of the organization's executive committee, that "no particular stir or publicity be given to the matters in the opinion, except have it published in the colored newspapers" of the State.

The Attorney General also suggested that his opinion, based on a recent State Supreme Court decision, be circulated "so that it will reach colored voters who may and should go ahead and exercise their voting prerogative in the normal, regular and unheralded manner."

"They should, he said, present themselves for registration at the proper places throughout the State when the registration books in their places of residence are open" and later do "the same thing in connection with the actual voting privilege."

Founder's day address here on Sunday, April 1.

Friend of the late George Washington Carver, in whose company Mr. Wallace as a boy made his first exploratory studies of trees and flowers, he last visited the institute in 1939 as secretary of agriculture to address a south-wide conference of Negro farmers.

The distinguished secretary is author of many books, including two recent best sellers: "Sixty Million Jobs" and "Century of the Common Man" — and is a recognized leader of liberal and humane thinking in the country.

President Patterson announces that

Watson Says Vote In Primaries Now Allowed Negroes

TALLAHASSEE, Oct. 31. (P)—Attorney General Tom Watson today advised Secretary of State R. A. Gray that Supervisors of Registration in Florida counties must permit negroes to register as Democrats and vote in the party primaries.

The Secretary of State had passed on to the Attorney General a request by the Highlands County Supervisor on the point.

Watson cited rulings of the State Supreme Court in two Escambia County cases that negroes must be allowed to register as members of the Democratic Party.

He said that in view of the United States Supreme Court decision in a similar case from Texas, "our Supreme Court was permitted little, if any, latitude in their choice of an answer" to the question.

Marion County NAACP Scores Another Victory

OCALA.—The Ocala Star Banner of September 6 carried an article announcing the transportation of Negro pupils in Marion county. This marks the successful culmination of more than 25 years of fighting. It is recalled that just three or four years ago, a committee of colored citizens were threatened with being thrown out of the superintendent's office, because they were persistent in demanding transportation for colored boys and girls.

The Marion county branch of the NAACP, WHICH HAS MORE THAN 600 members and is headed by that brilliant and courageous leader, Prof. Edward D. Davis, is to be congratulated. To say that Prof. Davis is an indispensable asset to this community is putting it very mildly. A splendid CREDIT UNION, the EQUAL SALARY SUIT, which resulted in the doubling of colored teachers' salaries in many cases; a nine-month school term which followed the equalization fight, and now bus transportation for Negro pupils all owe a considerable part of their success to Prof. Davis' matchless leadership.

Mr. Davis told this writer that the local NAACP would not relinquish its fight until all the pupils deserving transportation were being transported.

The local branch of the NAACP is waiting developments in the primary registration case of Prof. John A. Bures, secretary of the Marion county branch. President Davis reports "substantial progress in the case," and stated that the public should hear some real news in a week or so.

The Marion county branch has perfected plans for entertaining the Fla. Conference of NAACP Branches which convenes in Ocala on October 13, 14 and 15.

Sanford. NAACP Installs Officers

SANFORD.—At a meeting held last week at Allen Chapel AME Church the Seminole County branch of the NAACP held installation of officers, following which an address was made by Prof. Harry T. Moore, President of the State association. The Rev. T. D. Davis is pastor of the host church.

Sixteen new members were added to the local association roster. One of the new group was a gold certificate member. Officers installed were: President, A. L. James; vice president, E. A. Mickens and Willie Robinson; secretary, Mrs. R. E. Strickland; treasurer, Rev. K. S. Johnson and E. D. Strickland, chairman of the executive board.

—VV—

LOCAL N. A. A. C. P. TO HOLD MASS MEETING

A break has recently come between the president, Rev. M. C. Strachan, of the local Tampa Branch of the N. A. A. C. P. and the majority of the members of the executive committee of that branch. This break has developed over the INTERPRETATION of the constitution and by-laws issued in 1940 by the headquarters of the organization in New York City. Article three of the constitution, under the heading of committees says: "The executive committee shall have general control of the affairs of the branch, subject to the authority of the branch . . ."

President Strachan interprets that article to mean that, after the executive committee studies a matter and act by vote on that matter, it is still or then only a recommendation coming from the executive committee; and must later on be approved by the parent body in its open and general session on Sunday afternoon. On the other hand, the majority of the members of the executive committee held that it is not necessary for the parent body to approve of any action taken by the executive committee. All business of the organization must be transacted by the committee and not the open body.

Such members of the committee who stand by the president in his interpretation of that Article Three are: Matthew Gregory, R. A. Jones, and M. F. Cargins. A majority of the members of the committee, headed by E. Norman Lacey oppose Rev. Strachan's interpretation of Article Three. Rev. Strachan is president of the organization, E. Norman Lacey is vice president and Matthew Gregory is chairman of the executive committee.

On Tuesday night, July 25, some one called a special meeting of the executive committee. President Strachan was in Chicago that night. However, action was taken by the committee ordering President Strachan to surrender the charter of the branch, which charter is now in the hands of President Strachan. Also,

he was ordered to give up all letters and papers bearing in any wise upon the work of the organization.

President Strachan disregards this special order coming from the executive committee, maintaining that this order lacks the backing of the membership of the organization. President Strachan adds, however, that if he receives a request of this kind, coming from the headquarters in New York, he will quickly make the surrender.

The executive committee went into session last Sunday evening at 6:30 at the hall, 1313 Spring St., and took a vote, also appointed a committee of three persons, to go down and consult a Tampa lawyer and find out from him what steps, if any, might be taken to compel Rev. Strachan to surrender the charter, also all the important branch papers that are now in his hands.

The Tampa branch, practically speaking was the founder of the state conference of branches. But today, the Tampa branch has withdrawn its support and collaboration from the state set-up, headed by Prof. Moore at Mims. President Strachan and his group tried to prevent this action; but the majority out-voted Strachan. And of course the majority always wins the battle.

This week President Strachan is sending out a city-wide general call for a public mass meeting of all members of the Tampa branch of the NAACP, to be held at Mt. Moriah Primitive Baptist church, Nebraska Ave., 9 p. m., Monday, August 14. Those who are prospective members, as well as those who are paid-up members should be present to learn the present situation of the branch. Pastors of all churches, heads of clubs, leaders of all Negro groups in this area should have their constituents on hand to plan for the future welfare of one of the most important organizations ever founded by Negroes.

A LETTER TO THE REPUBLICAN PARTY.

Hon. Carroll Reece, Chairman
 Republican National Committee,
 Washington 6. D. C.

Mims, Florida
 July 15, 1947

Dear Mr. Reece:

We appreciate your letter of July 10, in which you assured us "that the Republican Party will do all in its power to eliminate the disgrace of lynch law and mob violence".

In making this statement, however, you expressed the fear that "it may be necessary for a Republican President, in co-operation with a Republican Congress, to be in office before this necessary legislation can be enacted".

We feel that such a delay is not necessary. On several occasions President Truman has expressed his opposition to lynching and mob violence. He has expressed alarm at the numerous violations of the civil rights of American citizens, because of their race, creed, or color; and he has appointed a special committee to survey this situation and to make certain recommendations to Congress. President Truman has emphasized the need of stronger Federal laws to protect the civil rights of citizens and to cope with the evil of lynching and mob violence. In his discussion of this problem at the 38th Annual Conference of the NAACP, President Truman declared that "we cannot, any longer, await the growth of a will to action in the slowest state or the most backward community. Our National Government must show the way." In view of these facts, it is our opinion that President Truman will sign a strong anti-lynching bill, if it is passed by Congress.

It seems to us that the next move must be made by the Congress. The strong Wagner-Morse-Case-Douglas Bill has been introduced in both Houses. It is now up to the Republican majority to break down any opposition that might develop and hold Congress in session until this Bill is passed. The Republicans have the power to do this. Will they use this power now to provide Federal protection for the millions of black Americans in the South, or will they cater to the whims of "states rights" Congressmen and leave us still exposed to the fury of the lynch mob? Liberal voters of the nation are awaiting your answer to this question.

Respectfully yours,

Harry T. Moore, Executive Secretary Florida State Conference, NAACP

Floridians Call Political Meet

8/26/47 — *Continued*

MIMS, Fla.—The Florida State conference of the NAACP, through its president, Harry T. Moore, has issued a call to Negro leaders throughout the State for a meeting to be held in Lake Wales, Fla., August 31. The purpose of the meeting is to help formulate plans whereby the masses of Negroes may be taught the importance of the ballot and may be made "vote conscious."

Every organization in Florida, civic and religious, has been asked to co-operate in the new movement and invitations have been sent to the heads of the various State organizations seeking their support.

Negroes Organize Progressive Voters' League of Florida

MIMS, Fla.—At the special state meeting of Florida Negro leaders that was held at Lake Wales August 31 it was decided to organize the Progressive Voters' League of Florida. This action came as a result of recommendations submitted by Harry T. Moore, president of the NAACP State Conference, under whose directions the special meeting was held. The new organization is to be non-partisan, and its primary purpose is to encourage a wider and more intelligent use of the ballot by Negroes, in an effort to secure for ourselves a fuller enjoyment of the fundamental rights of citizenship.

Mr. Earl E. Broughton of Tampa, treasurer of the Central Insurance Company, was elected president of the League. Among the other officers elected are Mrs. E. A. Pickett, secretary; Rev. H. J. Fordham, assistant secretary; Mrs. R. B. Watman, corresponding secretary; Harry T. Moore, treasurer; M. C. Bodie, director of publicity. A vice president is to be elected from each congressional district. Mr. Sam B. Solomon was named chairman of the Board of Directors. The head of every state organization (civic, business, and religious) is asked to serve on the Board of Directors.

Officers and board members of the State Voters' League are urged to meet at the Ephesus School, 816 9th St., West Palm Beach, Sunday, Sept. 10, at 11:00 p. m. to work out more details of the organization. The body empowered us to select the vice presidents and to set the machinery of

Directors To Meet Sunday

The Directors of the Florida State Conference of NAACP, Prof. Harry T. Moore, Mims, Florida, president, and the Progressive Voters League of Florida, Prof. Milton P. Rooks, Clearwater, Fla., president, are holding a joint meeting at 321 South Bryan Street, Orlando, Florida, Sunday, January 13, at 10:30 A.M.

C. T. Williams, Chairman,
 Fifth Congressional District
 Progressive Voters League.

N. A. A. C. P.
 STATE

C
O
N
F
E
R
E
N
C
E

OCALA, FLA.

Oct. 13-15

1947

**PROGRESSIVE VOTERS'
LEAGUE ENDORSES
CANDIDATES**

MIMS—The Progressive Voters' League of Florida endorse these candidates for the election on Nov. 2:

1. President—Harry S. Truman.
2. Representative in Congress (5th District)—M. J. Moss, Jr., Orlando.

The League endorses President Truman primarily because of his stand for civil rights. We recognize the fact that Mr. Truman, as president of the United States, appointed a committee of prominent citizens in 1946 to make a study of the civil rights of minority groups. This report ranks with the Declaration of Independence and the Emancipation Proclamation in its plea for justice and equal rights for all mankind. Soon after this report on civil rights was made, Mr. Truman sent a special message to Congress, asking that the Committee's recommendations be enacted into law. And recently Mr. Truman issued two executive orders—one to establish an FEPC for government workers, and the other to create a committee to eliminate discrimination and to guarantee equality of treatment in the armed forces. Because of his stand on these issues, Mr. Truman has lost the support of many in his own party. It seems that the Dixierats are trying to defeat him just for spite. In view of these facts, we feel that Mr. Truman deserves our full support at the polls on Nov. 2.

Milton P. Rooks, president;
Harry T. Moore, executive secretary. 10/26/48

10/16/48
**Progressive Voters'
League Of Florida
Endorses President
Truman**

In a state meeting held at Mt. Olive AME Church, Orlando, on Saturday, October 9, the Progressive Voters' League of Florida voted to endorse Harry S. Truman in his race for the presidency.

Representatives were present to speak for Wallace, Dewey, and Truman, and all were given fair consideration. The League's decision to support Truman was based largely on the President's firm stand in advocating a strong civil rights program, which is so vital to the future welfare of American Negroes and other minority groups, and which is necessary to help make America the true democracy that it should be.

Box 4
Mims, Fla.

1948

Mr. Nancy Anderson, President
Sophomore Class

*Clippings on endorsement
of candidates for General Election*

NAACP URGES STRONG CIVIL RIGHTS PLANK IN DEMOS PLATFORM

MIMS—Harry T. Moore, executive secretary of the NAACP, wrote Mr. Francis J. Myers, chairman of the platform committee of the Democratic National Convention, urging him to include a strong civil rights plank in the platform.

His letter is as follows:

We note that some of our Southern leaders are trying to bring pressure to bear against the inclusion of a strong civil rights plank in the platform of the Democratic Party. These gentlemen are trying to drown out the main issue with their cries about "states' rights" and "local self-government."

The main issue is this: Shall lynching, mob violence, police brutality, disfranchisement, and racial discrimination in employment continue to prevail in our Democracy, or shall Congress pass strong laws to suppress these

evils? Shall those guilty of lynching, disfranchising, and discriminating against minorities still be immune to punishment, or shall the strong arm of the Federal Government be empowered to bring these guilty parties to justice?

Some of our Southern leaders are urging that lynching has been reduced to a minimum and there is no longer a need for a federal anti-lynching law. This statement is misleading, and we wish to remind your committee that we have many secret lynchings in the South. Some cases of intimidation, mob violence, and police brutality never get into the records.

We have discovered several cases of this nature in Florida during recent years. One night in January, 1946, Leroy Bradwell, a Negro veteran of Gadsden County, Florida, mysteriously "disappear-

ed" while in the custody of Sheriff Edwards and Deputy Maple. Although Bradwell has not been seen or heard of since, Governor Caldwell readily accepted the officers' alibi and they carried this boy to the county line and turned him loose. Negroes in that same county were "advised" not to vote in the Democratic Primary on May 4, 1948. A few voted anyway, and that night a part of one Negro's home was blown off by dynamite. Another Negro was forced to leave his farm and flee with his family to New Jersey.

Do not be misled. There is urgent need for the enactment of strong civil rights legislation. We therefore urge your committee to submit resolutions that will pledge the Democratic Party to work for the passage of effective Federal laws to protect all citizens from the evils mentioned above.

Charter Granted For New Political Movement In Fla.

A statewide movement, known as the Citizens Democratic Clubs of Florida, was issued a charter this week and authorized to establish local units anywhere in the United States.

The incorporators are: C. Blythe Andrews, Perry Harvey, David Snow, Mathew Gregory, Capers Bradham, Rev. R. D. Dawson, Rev. P. H. Jackson, Mrs. Idella Street, Mrs. Mary Ballard. All are from Tampa except Bradham who lives in Jacksonville.

"Many others are identified with the movement," Andrews stated, but their names were not needed to get the charter.

The purpose of the new organization as set out in the charter is as follows: "to cultivate political intelligence, establish industrial unity and cooperation, encourage frugality and economy, and assist in securing employment for its members."

Perry Harvey and C. Blythe Andrews, prime movers of the movement, said they wished to unite their forces and forces of

their friends about the state and others of like-minds in a common organization rather than remain split up into so many splinters which could not do effective work.

DAWSON AT GOP

PHILADELPHIA — (NNPA) — Representative William L. Dawson, of Illinois, who spoke at the Wednesday afternoon session, made a typical convention speech, damning the Republican party and praising the Democratic party.

NEGRO TO KEYNOTE PROGRESSIVES

NEW YORK — (NNPA) — A former colored Republican leader has been selected to deliver the keynote address at the third party convention that meets in Philadelphia July 23-25, the National Wallace for President Committee announced here last Thursday. He is Charles P. Howard of Des Moines, Iowa.

NAACP Branch Organized in Marion County

Sunday afternoon, Dec. 5, a large group of Negro citizens of Martin County, Fla., gathered in the AME church at Stuart to complete the organization of a branch of the NAACP. The new branch made application for charter with 77 members.

Several weeks prior to this meeting Mr. Harry T. Moore of Mims, president of the Florida State conference and Mr. Elmon Stovall of the Brevard Co. branch had contacted Stuart in the interest of the NAACP. C. P. Rev. H. W. Williams, pastor of Stuart AME church, was appointed chairman of a committee to help work up a branch with the active energy of Rev. Williams' co-workers in an intensive campaign. As a result, over 50 memberships were secured within a short time.

In answer to a call from Rev. Williams, conference president, accompanied by Mr. N. N. Gilbert of Brevard county, returned to Stuart Sunday to help perfect the organization. Other visitors present were: Rev. F. Ellen of Ft. Pierce branch and Rev. James W. Williams, member of the state executive committee. The following officers were elected: Mr. Wesley Albritton, pres.; Mrs. Gertrude Waldon, vice pres.; Mrs. Ora Del Hamilton, sec.; Mrs. Julia DeBose, treas.