

6/28/47

# Harry T. Moore Asks GOP Stand On Anti-Lynching Legislation

By CALVIN E. ADAMS

MIMS—"Since the days of slavery thousands of Negro voters have been Republicans by tradition." An day thirteen million colored Americans are looking to this Republican Congress for the passage of legislation will give them full protection of the Federal Government against mob rule.

"The stand that you take on this issue will determine, in a large measure, how Negro citizens will vote in 1948. We are depending on you. Will you fail us?" was the question asked and the facts stated to the GOP leaders of the eightieth Congress in regard to an anti-lynch bill.

This inquiry was made by Harry T. Moore, executive secretary of the Florida State Conference, NAACP and Progressive Voters League, respectively, in a circular letter.

### POLICE BRUTALITY

This letter, which was sent to all

leaders of the Republican Party in both House and Senate read further:

"American Negroes are anxiously waiting to see what steps this Congress will take to protect us from the wave of lynching, mob violence and police brutality that seems to be sweeping the South."

In presenting this plea to the Nation's solons, the writer stated:

"Perhaps you understand the situation as well as we do. Members of our race are being lynched and mobbed with alarming regularity. Many police officers show no respect for us as human beings. Some seem to think it is their sacred duty to help, aid, torture or kill their helpless Negro prisoners. This is in an atmosphere of fear. We have very little confidence in the law, as represented by local peace officers. Too often we find them cooperating with the mobs. And when we seek protection from the Department of Justice, we are told that the Federal Government has no jurisdiction under present laws."

### FEDERAL LAW

"For years Southern Congressmen—and some from the North, too—have been howling about "States rights." Whenever an anti-lynching bill is introduced, they brand it as a dangerous encroachment of the sacred rights reserved for the States. But which is more sacred, "States rights," or the lives of black citizens? For years these "States rights" statesmen have argued that the individual States can solve the problem of lynching and mob violence. Recent events tend to prove that the States have been miserable failures in their efforts to reach the root of this great evil!"

In closing this letter, the executive secretary of two of the State's most prominent groups stated:

"Our only hope is a strong Federal law against lynching and mob violence. We, therefore, urge you to work earnestly for the passage of the Wagner-Morse-Case bill. But we suggest that you first have the rules of the Senate changed so that cloture can be invoked by a majority vote. Past experiences have proven that this is the only way that a strong anti-lynching bill can pass the Senate."

FOR THE RECORD IN WASHINGTON—



**GETS MEDICAL CARE**—Little Miss Juanita Watson of Atlanta, receives treatment for a sprained wrist while attending the Seventh-Day Adventist camp meeting held in Jacksonville. The treatment is given by Mrs. A. B. Simons, R.N., Atlanta, Ga., a graduate of Meharry. The medical tent was under the supervision of Dr. J. Cox, medical director of the Riverside Sanitarium, Nashville, Tenn. Reid Photo.



### "The Virginian" at Strand Sunday

Joan McCrea (above), Brian Donlevy and Sonny Tufts are the stars in Paramount's gigantic class Western hit, "The Virginian," playing at the Strand Sunday through Wednesday, June 29 through July 2. This picture, an outstanding film for patrons of all ages, will un-

## Guidance for Youth

STAPLES

# NAACP Sec. Makes Report

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO THE FLORIDA NAACP ONE - DAY MEETING IN LAKE WALES  
Dear Co-Workers:

Eight months have passed since we submitted our last formal report to the One-Day Emergency Conference in Orlando on Nov. 1, 1946. At that time we had just begun our work as a full-time executive secretary for the Florida State Conference of the NAACP.

Our work in Florida has continued to grow these eight months. Whereas on Nov. 1 there were 61 branches in Florida, we now have 71 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 50 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. & M. and the Bethune - Cookman College Chapters have been revived, and several new youth councils have been organized. Among these are West Palm Beach, Ft. Lauderdale, Titusville, Pompano, Orlando, St. Petersburg, Fruitland Park, and Panama City. Florida has 18 chartered youth groups, and we hope that others will be organized by the time of our Third Annual Youth Meeting, which will be held in Mims, Aug. 29-31.

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 25 young people under 25 years of age to get a charter for a youth council or college chapter. We suggest that you appoint a committee now to work on this project.

Again we must pay tribute to our

many branch workers over the state who have helped us to realize this increase in the number of senior branches and youth councils. Among these are Mrs. Maggie Hayward, Julia Wooden, Rebecca Lindsey, Bernice Williams, Mary Groom, Colfe Lang, Misses Annie L. Motley, G. D. McLin, Rev. R. H. Johnson, M. C. Stracham, A. L. Russell, W. J. H. Black, Messrs. R. A. Redtick, E. K. Bass, Edward Brown, J. Maxwell Charlow, Neil Humphrey, Harry L. Burney, T. R. Reid, L. E. Hall, William Burton, Lester V. Baker, and C. C. Washington.

Perhaps our major effort during the past few months has been the fight against the white primary. Realizing the fundamental importance of this issue, we put everything that we had into the fight to maintain free and unfettered elections in Florida. Because of our efforts in this direction, the Florida State Conference received an award of honor at the 38th Annual Conference of the NAACP held recently in St. Paul, Minnesota. We have also had to deal with lynchings, mob violence, and brutality.

Our main handicap during these eight months has been the lack of regular financial support from many of our branches. It seems that some of our branches did not realize that we have been operating on a full-time basis since Sept. 1, 1945, and they have been slow in sending financial support to the State Conference, according to the plan adopted in Panama City last year. Some branches, especially those in the larger cities, seem to find it difficult to collect 50c per member every six months for the support of the State Conference. In such cases we suggest that the branches put on some project to raise their quota for the Conference. In the meantime, we must keep reminding our people that \$1.00 per year from each member will not finance all the work of the NAACP. The National Office needs more money, the State Conference must be supported, and the individual branches need money for their local activities. Our people must be led to realize that freedom never descends upon a people. It is always bought with a price.

\* \* \*

We wish to thank the Florida

Baptist women, led by Mrs. Viola T. Hill, and the Committee at the Florida A. & M. College, under the leadership of Mr. Gray, for their generous financial contributions to the State Conference. We also are grateful to those branches that have been quick to respond to our urgent appeal of May 21, and we hope that plans can be worked out at this meeting whereby the Conference will receive the necessary financial support at regular intervals.

We also are deeply concerned about the success of our membership drive. Some branches seem to be lagging a bit, 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. We therefore urge our branches to redouble their efforts to reach, or surpass their quotas for 1947. Let us not relax now; but let us keep on "driving" until Christmas, if necessary.

It has been our privilege to visit many of the branches during the past few months, and we are very grateful for the many courtesies shown us. The spirit has been good, and it has been a pleasure to work with you. We pray that this spirit of co-operation will continue and that our strength will be blended more and more in this great struggle to secure for our people a fuller enjoyment of their Constitutional rights and privileges. Harry T. Moore, Executive Sec'y. Florida State Conference, NAACP. Lake Wales, July 11, 1947.

**Our  
Advertisers  
Assure You  
Quality**

# FEDERAL LYNCH LAW URGENTLY NEEDED

Florida Delegation  
United States Congress  
Washington

Mims, Florida  
June 13, 1947

Dear Sirs:

Again we must remind you of the urgent need of a strong Federal law against lynching and mob violence. The recent acquittal of self-confessed lynchers in Greenville, S. C., affords additional proof the individual states are unable to cope with this great evil

And our own state is no exception. No doubt you still remember the several lynchings that have blotted Florida's record during the past few months: (1) Cellos Harrison at Marianna in 1943, (2) Willie James Howard near Live Oak in 1944, (3) Jesse James Payne near Madison in 1945, and (4) Sam McFadden at Branford in 1945. These are the recorded lynchings. There have been rumors and strong evidence of others. For example, on January 7, 1946, Leroy Bradwell, a Negro veteran of Midway, Fla., mysteriously disappeared while in the custody of Sheriff Edwards and Deputy Maple of Georgia. Three witnesses have testified that these two men took Leroy from his mother's home about 11:30 p.m. The boy has not been seen or heard of since. Affidavits to this effect were submitted to Governor Caldwell, but no action has been taken.

In only one of these cases (Sam McFadden) has anyone been arrested or convicted. Even in this case the Suwanne County Grand Jury refused to return an indictment, and Federal authorities could move only under a weak civil rights statute. Thus a man gets off with only a year in jail and a fine of \$1,000 for committing first degree murder. In the other cases mentioned above the officers were not even suspended for their failure to protect the helpless prisoners entrusted to their care.

We cannot afford to wait until the several states get "trained" or "educated" to the point where they can take effective action in such cases. Human life is too valuable for more experimenting of this kind. The Federal Government must be empowered to take the necessary action for the protection of its citizens. We need a Federal law with "teeth". We therefore urge you to work for the passage of the Wagner-Morse-Case Bill during this session of Congress.

Respectfully yours,  
Harry T. Moore, Executive Secretary  
Florida State Conference, NAACP  
Progressive Voters' League of Florida, Inc.

## N. A. A. C. P. JOTTINGS

10/13/45

On last Saturday, President Strachan, of the local Branch received the following letter from the New York headquarters. It is a copy of a letter recently addressed to Mr. E. Norman Lacey of Tampa, and signed by the National Secretary:

New York City, N. Y.  
October 2, 1945.

Dear Mr. Lacey:

We have been advised by Reverend M. C. Strachan, president of the Tampa Branch of the NAACP that you do not hold any office in the Branch, and have not been authorized by the Branch to carry on any NAACP activities or to raise funds on behalf of the NAACP.

On checking our files, I find that our Bookkeeping Department received regular membership report blanks, which you no doubt had in your possession from your former position with our Branch; and that the membership money had been received by the office, and receipts sent to you. This happened in the regular course of our business; and we assumed that, the memberships were from our regular Tampa Branch.

We are advised that you are operating a separate branch in Tampa. As a result of the recent controversy in the Tampa Branch, an election was held under the auspices of this office, by order of the Board of Directors of the NAACP, and Reverend Strachan and his group are the only recognized officers of our Tampa Branch.

There is no other Branch in Tampa. For some reason, you seem to believe that there is a possibility of setting up a separate branch. This is IMPOSSIBLE under our rules.

You are hereby notified that you are not authorized to raise any funds on behalf of the NAACP and we hereby call upon you to make an accounting to this office of all funds raised by you in the name of the N. A. A. C. P. We request that you make this accounting of all such funds raised in the name of the N. A. A. C. P., by you, or others under your instructions, and that you do so immediately, or we will be required to take the necessary legal steps to secure such accounting.

In order that there be no misunderstanding, be advised that, this office does not recognize you or Mr. Malloy as authorized representatives of the NAACP and that you are not authorized to raise any funds in the name of the NAACP, or the Tampa Branch, or any other name similar thereto.

Ever sincerely,  
SECRETARY.

**RECENT WORK OF THE NAACP IN FLORIDA**

By HARRY T. MOORE

MIMS.—As we enter the New Year, we pause to express our deep gratitude to the NAACP branches and to the various business and fraternal organizations, whose contributions have helped us to launch a full-time program in Florida. Among the organizations that have already responded to the Conference Budget Committee are: (1) Central Life Insurance Co., \$500.00, (2) Florida State Teachers' Association, \$250, (3) Lily White Benefit Association, \$100, (4) Tampa Elks, \$50, (5) Afro-American Life Insurance Co., \$25, (6) Coca Elks, \$10, (7) Good Neighbors, Inc., \$5, (8) Davis' Service Station, \$5. We also are grateful to the National Office for sending Mr. Rufus W. Smith, one of Florida's native sons, to help work with our branches during the months of November and December. Mr. Smith did much to help stimulate our work during his tour of the state.

Our work is growing steadily. The end of 1946 found us with 63 branches in Florida. Among our new branches are Greensboro (Gadsden County), Jackson County, and Crescent City. Plant City and Apopka have reached their quotas for organization. Lakeland and Oakland are near their goals, and Hastings, Sarasota, Apalachicola, and other places are working toward branches. Interest in our youth work also is gradually increasing. Ft. Lauderdale and West Palm Beach have recently organized youth councils. Students at Florida A. and M. College plan to revive their College Chapter, and Orlando, Fort Myers, Tallahassee, Melbourne, and other places are working on councils. We urge all of our branches to give special attention to this phase of the work during the early months of the New Year. Florida should have 25 or 30 youth councils and college chapters by the time of our next state youth meeting in August.

The New Year finds us still fighting the forces of injustices that seem to beset our people on every hand. In our last communication we mentioned the case of police brutality in New Smyrna, where rough handling

by a deputy sheriff caused a Negro woman to have a miscarriage and lose her baby. We are pressing for action on this matter in Federal Court. Other cases of police brutality have since been uncovered in Haines City, Lake Wales, Apopka, and other places. Unfortunate many peace of think that he is to beat and citizens. This demands our

During the Lewis Case Lewis was first charge of "intended rape," but later the charge was changed to "breaking and entering." Evidently, nobody saw the face of the person whose hand was pushed through the window screen of the white girl's room. Yet, officers broke down the door of the Lewis home and beat Lewis so severely that they found it necessary to carry him to the County Hospital that night. Later they continued to beat Lewis in the Bartow jail in an effort to make him confess. Through all of this Lewis has declared his innocence. In this case our attorneys also are attacking the systematic exclusion of Negroes from jury service.

Again we must remind you of the urgent need of building up a strong State Conference Legal Fund. All of these cases deserve our attention. The Lewis Case alone is costing \$1000.00 for action in the Polk County Circuit Court, and the cost will be greater if an appeal becomes necessary. We solicit the financial assistance of all Florida branches in our efforts to push these cases through. Make for your contribution to K. S. Johnson, Sanford. Mail the order to the executive secretary at Mims. Remember that freedom is always bought with a price. Let us therefore combine our forces and make a more determined effort to secure for ourselves a fuller enjoyment of our Constitutional rights.

**PLANT CITY**

The Congress No. ly at St. Luke M. Rev. C. W. Burns, pastor and president of this Congress. The meeting was a great success and the people wish to express their

**2 Convicted In West Florida Assault Case**

12/13/47

The Washington County Branch of the NAACP has reported two convictions in the case in which two white men were charged with criminal attacks on two Negro school girls near Chipley, Florida, about three months ago. Bill Hagan and W. L. McKnight were convicted in Circuit Court and sentenced to prison terms of five and seven years, respectively.

Although these sentences are comparatively light, in view of the seriousness of the crimes committed, there is some encouragement in the fact that convictions were secured. This is particularly true when we consider the fact that all-white juries have persistently refused to convict in many similar cases, even in the face of a preponderance of evidence.

An effort will now be made to prosecute two companions of Hagan and McKnight, who sat in a car and watched while the attacks were being made.

Attorney W. W. Flournoy, able white lawyer of De Funiak Springs, was retained by the Washington County Branch of the NAACP to help with the prosecution. Financial assistance is being given by other NAACP branches and by various local organizations. According to reports, Washington County officials have manifested an unusual spirit of co-operation in handling these cases.

**Sewannee Branch  
NAACP in Annual  
Meeting in Live Oak**

LIVE OAK, Nov. 23.—The Suwannee Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People held its annual session at the Ebenezer AME Church, November 18-19, with President E. K. Bass presiding.

The Monday evening meeting was given over to the discussion of the past activities of the branch and to charting the course for the ensuing year. Expressions were made by Mrs. Moore, mother of the executive secretary, Harry T. Moore, Prof. McPherson, Rev. H. Wilson of Jasper, Presiding Elder Dixon of the Lake City District and others. Greetings were brought by the Rev. J. C. Lester and Prof. E. K. Bass from the One Day Emergency Conference held at the Ebenezer M. E. Church, Orlando, Fla., on November 1. Collection of annual dues and enrollment fees concluded the meeting.

Tuesday's session included the election of officers and a mammoth program. Rev. H. H. Ziegler, former pastor of the Mt. Pisgah AME Church, Lake City delivered the message from the subject, "National Signs," Exodus 12:7 and was introduced by Presiding Elder Dixon. His address was followed with a response by the Rev. G. P. Pierce, pastor of the church. The choir of the church rendered music for the occasion and Mrs. Hester Lee Waters delivered the solo for the evening. The purpose of the meeting was given by E. K. Bass. Sylvester Morrow, chairman of the nominating committee, Mrs. Tessie Finley, and Charlie Jones submitted their ballots from which the following officers were elected: President, E. K. Bass; vice president, Rev. J. E. Loper; second vice-president, Charles Jones; secretary, R. A. Reddick Sr.; assistant secretary, Mrs. Gladys Manker Tyrus; treasurer, G. B. Glass; chairman executive committee, Joe Stone; chaplain, Rev. G. P. Pierce and chairman refreshment committee, Mrs. Winnie Mae Loper.

Immediately after the election members and friends were served a delicious repast prepared by Mrs. Winnie Loper, chairman of the refreshments committee and others at the Ebenezer Dining Hall.

A large number of members from adjacent counties attended these meetings. The next meeting will be held Monday, December 16 at the Springfield Baptist Church, Rev. C. Pete, pastor to which everyone is invited.

**GRADUATE STUDENTS  
MAY GET STATE BREAK**

By H. T. MOORE

MIMS—Over a year ago the Florida State Board of Education and the Board of Control, in joint session, adopted regulations whereby the out-of-state scholarship fund was set up for the benefit of Negro students who have to leave Florida to obtain graduate and professional courses. Dr. William H. Gray, Jr., president of the Florida A. and M. College, Tallahassee, was authorized to administer this fund.

Unfortunately, the out-of-state scholarship fund was exhausted before the opening of summer schools this year, and some teachers who did out-of-state graduate work earlier this year were unable to get aid from this fund. When this situation was called to our attention, we corresponded with Dr. Gray and state officials with regard to the

urgent need of supplementing the scholarship fund with sufficient money to take care of all eligible Negro graduate and professional students. On October 1, the State Cabinet voted to place an additional amount of ten thousand dollars in the scholarship fund.

It is our opinion that Florida Negro citizens are not responsible for the present inequalities in the educational system of our state. We feel, therefore, that every Florida Negro graduate or professional student who had to enroll in out-of-state schools at any time this year, should get the benefit of this fund. Dr. Gray has promised us his full cooperation to this end.

In view of these facts, we urge such students (including those who did out-of-state work earlier this year) to make immediate application to Dr. Gray for scholarship aid. If you encounter any difficulties, please call same to our attention.

State regulations permit a Maximum scholarship of \$300 for winter terms and \$150 for summer terms. The state pays the difference between tuition, fee and travel costs that a student would pay to attend Florida A. and M. College and what he has to pay to attend the out-of-state school.

**ARCHIE'S  
SHOE REPAIR**

1006 Scott St.

We Repair While You Wait

WE GUARANTEE

**Milner Appointed  
District Deputy of  
of IBPOE of W**

W. P. Milner, business manager of Hewing Funeral Home, Bartow, was recently appointed District Deputy of IBPOE of W. Mr. Milner is also a Mason Shriner and Knights of Pythian.

He is founder and president of the first branch of the NAACP in Bartow, member of the executive board of the Progressive Voters League and a member of the Florida State Council Branch NAACP. Director of Publicity for the Florida State Association of Health.

He is also a member of the Tampa graduate chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity.



# Florida NAACP Meet Is Success

11/23/46

ORLANDO, Fla.—Florida branches of the NAACP held a One-Day Emergency Conference at Ebenezer M. E. Church, in Orlando, recently. Approximately sixty delegates, representing branches from De Funiak Springs to Miami, gathered to consider and to make plans to meet some of the problems that confront our group. The Rev. W. J. H. Black of Lake Wales, vice president of the State conference, presided over the opening session.

In his first report to the conference as full-time executive secretary, Harry T. Moore revealed that Florida now has sixty-one branches, as compared with fifty-three at the time of our annual meeting in June. The executive secretary also revealed his efforts to get positive action in the disappearance of a Negro veteran in Gadsden County, emphasized the seriousness of police brutality in many communities, and urged each branch to raise a legal fund to fight such cases that might occur in its particular community.

The conference re-affirmed the policy of the national office that every State should provide within its own borders equal facilities for graduate and professional study without regard to race or color. The conference adopted a resolution to the effect that the present Out-of-State Scholarship Program for Florida Negro citizens can be regarded only as a temporary expedient and that by Sept. 1, 1947, we shall expect that adequate graduate and professional schools within this State shall be made available to Florida Negro citizens.

Among those who spoke during the conference were W. E. Combs, president of the Florida State Teachers' Association; Gilbert L. Porter, treasurer of the same organization, and Dr. William H. Gray Jr., president of Florida A. and M. College. Each speaker praised the work of the NAACP and pledged his full support to the program of the State conference. Mr. Combs and Mr. Porter presented a check for \$250.00, representing a contribution to the NAACP State Conference from the Florida State Teachers' Association.

At 8 P. M. the NAACP and the Central Life Insurance Company held a joint mass meeting at Shiloh Baptist Church. Edward D. Davis, the new president of the State conference, presented Rufus W. Smith, NAACP field secretary, who spoke briefly about the recent accomplishments of the association. President G. D. Rogers of the Central then presented Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, national vice president of the NAACP and a founder of the Central Insurance Company, to deliver the principal address of the evening. Dr. Bethune captivated the large audience as she spoke out of the richness of her experience.

The Orange County Branch, under the leadership of T. R. Reid, was host to the conference.

BILBO MUST GO

# Florida NAACP Holds One-Day Meeting In Orlando 11/23/46

MIMS, Fla.—

Florida branches of the NAACP held a One-Day Emergency Conference at Ebenezer M. E. Church, in Orlando, on Nov. 1. Approximately 60 delegates, representing branches from De Funiak Springs to Miami, gathered to consider and to make plans to meet some of the problems that confront our group. Rev. W. J. H. Black of Lake Wales, vice president of the State Conference, presided over the opening session.

In his first report to the Conference as full-time executive secretary, Harry T. Moore revealed that Florida now has 61 branches, as compared with 53 at the time of our Annual Meeting in June. The executive secretary also revealed his efforts to get positive action in the disappearance of a Negro veteran in Gadsden County, emphasized the seriousness of police brutality in many communities, and urged each branch to raise a legal fund to fight such cases that might occur in its particular community.

The Conference re-affirmed the policy of the National Office that every state should provide within its own borders equal facilities for graduate and professional study without regard to race or color. The Conference adopted resolutions to the effect that the present Out-of-State Scholarship Program for Florida Negro citizens can be regarded only as a temporary expedient and that by Sept. 1, 1947, we shall expect that adequate graduate and professional schools within this state shall be made available to Florida Negro citizens.

Among those who spoke during the Conference were Mr. W. E. Combs, president of the Florida State Teachers' Association; Mr. Gilbert L. Porter, treasurer of the same organization, and Dr. William H. Gray, Jr., president of Florida A. and M. College. Each speaker praised the work of the NAACP and pledged his full support to the program of the State Conference. Mr. Combs and Mr. Porter presented a check for \$250.00, representing a contribution to the NAACP State Conference from the Florida State Teachers' Association.

At 8:00 P. M. the NAACP and the Central Life Insurance Company held a joint mass meeting at Shiloh Baptist Church. Mr. Edward D. Davis, the new president of the State Conference presented Mr. Rufus W. Smith, NAACP field secretary, who spoke briefly about the recent accomplishments of the Association. President G. D. Rogers of the Central then presented Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, national vice president of the NAACP and a founder of the Central Insurance Company, to deliver the principal address of the evening. Dr. Bethune captivated the large audience as she spoke out of the richness of her experience.

The Orange County Branch, under the leadership of Mr. T. R. Reid, was host to the Conference.

HARRY T. MOORE,  
Executive Secretary, Florida

# State NAACP Head Hits Police Cruelty

By CALVIN E. ADAMS

MIMS—"Nineteen hundred and forty-seven finds us still fighting the forces of injustice that seem to beset our people on every hand. In our last communication we mentioned the case of police brutality in New Smyrna," was the statement of Harry T. Moore, executive secretary of the Florida State Conference of the NAACP, in his annual report to members throughout the State.

The report was released to branches and the press late in January and discussed steps being taken to better race conditions in the State. Mr. Moore expressed the organization's "deep gratitude" to branches, business and fraternal groups who have aided during the past year.

The executive secretary cited contributions made by firms and civic groups all over the State in responding to the conference budget committee appeal for funds "to launch a full-time program in Florida." Among those who contributed were Central Life Insurance Company, \$500; Florida State Teachers' Association, \$250; the Lily White Benefit Association, \$100; Tampa Order of the Elks, \$50; Afro-American Life Insurance Company, \$25; the Good Neighbors, Inc., \$5; Cocoa Order of Elks, \$10, and Davis Service Station, \$5.

## GROWTH OF ORGANIZATION SEEN

"Our work is growing steadily. The end of 1946 found us with sixty-three branches in Florida. Among our new branches are Greensboro (Gadsen County), Jackson County, and Crescent City. Plan City and Apopka have reached their quotas for organization. Lakeland and Oakland are near their goals, and Hastings, Sarasota, Apalachicola and other places are working toward branches," the report states.

In making mention of the growth of the NAACP move for a bigger and better organization, Moore thanked the national office for sending Rufus W. Smith, assistant field secretary and a native of Florida, to help work with the branches all over the State during the months of November and December. Speaking of the youthful assistant field secretary, Moore

2/1/47  
wrote: "Mr. Smith did much to help stimulate our work during his tour."

In speaking of some of the legal doings of the NAACP, Moore's letter said:

"During the past few weeks, E. E. Callaway and Mark O'Quinn, Florida NAACP attorneys, have been busy with the Andrew Lewis case in Polk county. Lewis was first booked on a charge of "intended rape" but later the charge was changed to "breaking and entering."

## CLAIMS INNOCENCE

Evidently, nobody saw the face of the person whose hand was pushed through the window screen of a white girl's room. Yet, officers broke down the door of the Lewis home and beat Lewis so severely that they found it necessary to carry him to the county hospital that night. Later they continued to beat Lewis in the Bartow jail in an effort to make him confess. Through all of this Lewis had declared his innocence.

Those desiring to make contributions to the appeal for aid by the NAACP may do so by making checks, money orders or postal notes payable and mailing them to K. S. Johnson, Sanford or Harry T. Moore, Box 4, Mims, Fla.

HEAD COLDS  
COGO  
CHEST COLDS

7/12/48  
PAGE EIGHT

## Florida Delegates Attend NAACP Conference

Although its delegation was small in numbers, Florida was well represented at the 39th Annual Conference of the NAACP, which was held in Kansas City, Missouri, June 22-27. Among those present from Florida were J. A. Whitehurst, president of the St. Petersburg Branch; Rogers Armister, president of the Miami Branch; Rev. R. W. McBride, president of the Boynton Beach Branch; Harry Taylor, president of the Pahokee Branch; Miss Bessie Brown, secretary of the West Palm Beach Branch; Mrs. Theresa Jenkins of the Orlando Branch; Mrs. R. W. McBride of Boynton Beach; and Harry T. Moore, executive secretary of the Florida State Conference, NAACP.

Leaving Jacksonville in a group Sunday, June 20th, the Florida delegation reached Kansas City in plenty of time for the opening session on Tuesday, June 22nd. The delegates were honored with places on the following committees:

1. Resolutions — Mrs. Theresa Jenkins.
2. Credentials — Miss Bessie Brown.
3. Time and Place — Rogers Armister.

Florida was further honored when Harry T. Moore, executive secretary of the State Conference, was placed on program to preside over the general session Friday morning, June 25th. Mr. Moore also was one of the three delegates elected to the Nominating Committee. This is the most important committee elected by the Conference, as its duty is to nominate persons to serve on the National Board of Directors.

One of the most significant changes recommended by the Conference was the adoption of a resolution asking that the constitution be changed so as to raise the minimum membership from \$1.00 to \$2.00 per year. This action was taken after the National Office revealed that the Association's receipts in 1947 were about \$80,000 less than expenditures.

It was clearly pointed out that a dollar now is worth only 33 cents, as compared with 10 years ago. Yet the NAACP is the only organization of any importance that has not increased its membership dues. The Conference was of the opinion that most NAACP members will fully understand this situation and that no thinking Negro will hesitate to pay \$2.00 or more per year to help finance the work of this great organization that is leading the fight for the complete emancipation of our race.

# Teachers Report \$250 To NAACP One Day Session

By H. T. MOORE

ORLANDO—Florida branches of the NAACP held a One-Day Emergency Conference at Ebenezer M. E. Church, in Orlando, on Nov. 1. A large group of delegates, representing branches from DeFuniak Springs to Miami, gathered to consider and to make plans to meet some of the problems that confront our group. Rev. W. J. H. Black of Lake Wales, vice president of the State Conference, presided over the opening session.

In his first report to the conference as full-time executive secretary, Harry T. Moore revealed that Florida now has 61 branches, as compared with 55 at the time of our annual meeting in June. The executive secretary also revealed his efforts to get positive action in the disappearance of a Negro veteran in Gadsden County, emphasized the seriousness of police brutality in many communities, and urged each branch to raise a legal fund to fight such cases that might occur in its particular community.

The conference re-affirmed the policy of the national office that every state should provide within its own borders equal facilities

(Continued on page 18)



**SPEAKS AT BETHEL SUNDAY**—Dr. G. W. Hawkins, noted dentist of Miami, is slated to speak at Greater Bethel Sunday afternoon at 6 P. M., under the auspices of the Omega Psi Phi fraternity of which Dr. R. R. Williams, Jr., is president.

## TEACHERS REPORT

(Continued from page 1)  
for graduate of professional study, without regard to race or color. The conference adopted resolutions to the effect that the present out-of-state scholarship program for Florida Negro citizens can be regarded only as a temporary expedient, and that by Sept. 1, 1947, we shall expect that adequate graduate and professional schools within this state shall be made available to Florida Negro citizens.

Among those who spoke during the conference were: Mr. W. E. Combs, president of the Florida State Teachers' Association; Mr. Gilbert L. Porter, treasurer of the same organization; and Dr. William H. Gray, Jr., president of Florida A. and M. College. Each speaker praised the work of the NAACP and pledged his full support to the program of the State Conference. Mr. Combs and Mr. Porter presented a check for \$250.00, representing a contribution to the NAACP State Conference from the Florida State Teachers' Association.

At 8 P. M. the NAACP and the Central Life Insurance Co. held a joint mass meeting at Shiloh Baptist Church. Mr. Edward D. Davis, the new president of the State Conference, presented Mr. Rufus W. Smith, NAACP field secretary, who spoke briefly about the recent accomplishments of the association. President G. D. Rogers of the Central then presented Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, national vice president of the NAACP and director of the Central Insurance Co., to deliver the principal address of the evening. Dr. Bethune captivated the large audience as she spoke out of the richness of her experience.

The Orange County Branch, under the leadership of Mr. T. R. Reid, was host to the conference.



# NAACP Raps Governor For Not Ousting Sheriff

MIMS—The Florida State Conference of the NAACP, through Harry T. Moore, state president, has condemned Governor Millard Caldwell for refusing to suspend Sheriff Davis of Madison Co. who is responsible for the death of Jesse Payne. This was revealed in the following letter to the General Board of Education of the Methodist Church.

Mr. R. B. Eleazer  
General Board of Education  
Methodist Church  
Methodist Building  
810 Broadway  
Nashville 2, Tennessee

Dear Sir:

Some time ago we read about your question to Gov. Millard F. Caldwell, in which you asked about the murder of Jesse James Payne in Madison County, Fla., on Oct. 11, 1945. Gov. Caldwell published recently the full text of his letter to you. At the same time he announced his intention to sue Collier's Magazine for their editorial of Feb. 23rd.

We note that Gov. Caldwell still maintains that Payne's murder was not a lynching, because Payne was not taken from jail by a mob. Whether or not

was involved is not such an important question. The fact is that Payne was taken from the custody of the Sheriff and put to death. He was executed without due process of law. The Sheriff of Madison County is responsible for this horrible crime; yet Gov. Caldwell refuses to suspend the Sheriff for his carelessness. Payne's relatives say there was plenty of mob action when he was arrested last July. They say it was estimated that over 400 men from Madison and neighboring counties joined in the "man hunt."

These are the facts in the case: Jesse Payne, an ex-service man, has been executed without due process of law. Those who made this execution possible have not been punished. Payne's wife and his 11-month-old child have been left without means of support. They had to rush away and leave all their crop to D. L. Goodwin, Payne's employer. Surely Payne, and others of both races who served in the armed forces, did not fight for this type of democracy.

For your information we enclose a copy of the relatives' affidavit also a copy of our letter

4/13/46  
Harry T. Moore, president of the State NAACP, one of the most unassuming men in the nation, is making a fine contribution to the advancement of his state and people.

A courageous and well trained man, he released last week information, including affidavits and correspondence, concerning the killing of three Negroes in Florida during the past two and half years.

His release was addressed to the Florida delegation in Congress appealing to them to support the Anti-Lynch Bill.

## NAACP President Writes R. B. Eleazer

Mims, Fla.,  
March 10, 1946.

Mr. R. B. Eleazer,  
General Board of Education  
Methodist Church,  
Methodist Building,  
810 Broadway,  
Nashville 2, Tenn.

Dear Sir:

Some time ago we read about your question to Gov. Millard F. Caldwell, in which you asked about the murder of Jesse James Payne in Madison County, Florida, on Oct. 11, 1945. Gov. Caldwell published recently the full text of his letter to you. At the same time he announced his intention to sue Collier's Magazine for their editorial of Feb. 23d.

We note that Gov. Caldwell still maintains that Payne's murder was not a lynching, because Payne was not taken from jail by a mob. Whether or not a mob was involved is not such an important question. The fact is that Payne was taken from the custody of the sheriff and put to death. He was executed without due process of law. The sheriff of Madison County is responsible for this horrible crime; yet Gov. Caldwell refuses to suspend the sheriff for his carelessness. Payne's relatives say there was plenty of mob action when he was arrested last July. They say it was estimated that over 400 men from Madison and neighboring counties joined in the "man hunt."

These are the facts in the case: Jesse Payne, an ex-service man, has been executed without due process of law. Those who made this execution possible have not been punished. Payne's wife and his 11-month-old child have been left without means of support. They had to rush away and leave all their crop to D. L. Goodwin, Payne's employer. Surely Payne and others of both races who served in the armed forces, did not fight for this type of democracy.

For your information we enclose a copy of the relatives' affidavit, also a copy of our letter to Collier's.

Very truly yours,

HARRY T. MOORE,  
President Florida State Conference, NAACP.

(Copy)

# NAACP Sends Protest Of Lynching To Gov. And Attorney General

(Continued from page one)

take a firm stand in this matter.  
Respectfully yours,  
HARRY T. MOORE, President  
Fla. State Conference, NAACP  
cc: Attorney General Tom Watson.

Mims, Florida  
November 3, 1945

Attorney General Tom Watson  
Capitol Building  
Tallahassee, Florida

Dear Sir:

It is disappointing to learn that the Special Grand Jury at Madison failed to place blame on anyone for the lynching of Jesse James Payne last month. No sane minded person could conclude that Sheriff Davis did not know that Payne's life was in danger, when the Sheriff himself saw the big mob that was searching for Payne last July.

We heartily agree with you in saying that Sheriff Davis did not exercise due precaution for the protection of the prisoner's life. One of two things is evident. Either the Sheriff is incapable of holding such a responsible position, or he had absolutely no regard for the safety of the prisoner. In either case there is ample cause for his removal from office. We respectfully urge that you recommend such action to Gov. Caldwell.

No doubt you have been receiving copies of our letters to Gov. Caldwell and you know that we have forwarded to him the affidavit of the wife, the mother, and the sister of Jesse Davis. You will note that the wife, the sister, and some other colored people saw D. L. Goodwin and his two sons take Payne at the point of a gun and carry him off in their car. By what authority did the Goodwins make such an "arrest?" If the affidavit is true, it would seem that the charge of attempted rape of the five-year-old girl was just an alibi to get Payne out of the way.

Law-abiding citizens of Florida will be pleased if you will continue your efforts to get at the bottom of this disgraceful affair.

Respectfully yours,  
HARRY T. MOORE, President  
Fla. State Conference, NAACP  
cc: Gov. Millard F. Caldwell.

# NAACP SENDS PROTEST OF LYNCHING TO GOV. AND ATTY. GENERAL

Mims, Florida  
October 17, 1945.

Gov. Millard F. Caldwell  
Capitol Building  
Tallahassee, Florida

Dear Governor:

We take this opportunity to urge that the full weight of your office be thrown behind an effort to find and punish those responsible for the lynching of Jesse James Payne near Madison last week. Vigorous action in this case is necessary if the good name of our state is to be redeemed.

This is the third time within the space of twenty-seven months that Florida's record has been marred by the brutal lynching of its helpless Negro citizens. One night in July, 1943, the jailor at Marianna obligingly opened his doors to four strange masked men, and Cellos Harrison was taken out and lynched. On the first Sunday in January, 1944, Willie James Howard, a fifteen-year-old high school boy of Live Oak, was snatched from his mother by three white men and drowned in the Suwan-

nee River. The father of this boy was forced to go along and witness the lynching of his own son.

In neither of these lynchings was anybody punished. The jailer at Marianna was not even suspended for his carelessness. And nobody was arrested in the Howard lynching, although the father and mother positively identified two of the three men involved.

The lynching of Payne again reveals that type of carelessness that seems to be so prevalent among local officers when the lives of Negro prisoners are at stake. Sheriff Lonnie Davis must have known that State Patrolmen had to guard Payne from a mob at Monticello when he was arrested in July. Then why would he leave Payne all night in an unguarded jail? Evidently, he had very little regard for the safety of the prisoner who had been placed in his care. We feel that the sheriff's negligence in this case should be sufficient cause for his removal from office.

The better thinking citizens of Florida will be grateful if you will

(Continued on page eight)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1948

## Floridians With The Eighth Army In Japan

Headquarters, Eighth Army, Yokohama, Japan.—Recruit James Grant, son of Mr. and Mrs. Willie Grant, Raleigh, Florida, is now serving as a truck driver with the 558th Engineer Dump Truck Company, a part of the 5th Engineer Construction Group.

Entering the Army in 1943, he arrived in this theater in January. He is a former student of Raleigh Schools.

Sergeant Lafayette Harris, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Harris, 327 Garfield, DeLand, is now serving as a Troop Information and Education N.C.O. with the 558th Engineer Dump Truck Company, a part of the 5th Engineer Construction Group.

Stationed in Yokohama, Japan's major port city and seat of the headquarters of the Eighth Army, Sergeant Harris is filling an essential job with the Army's Occupational Forces here.

Entering the Army in 1941, he arrived in this theater in August 1947. He is a former student of Bethune Cookman College.

## North Malone

Sunday school was conducted by the assistant Supt. E. W. Mount with each teacher and officer at his post of duty and on time. The lesson was reviewed by the Supt. W. H. Spates. Banner Class for collection Class No. 1, runner up Class No. 2. We have a wide awake superintendent who knows his duty and reprimands his staff where they fail to do theirs.

At 11 o'clock services were opened with choir No. 1 and usher Board No. 1 serving. Rev. Jones, as usual, broke the bread of life to us. Services for the remaining part of the day were good. Collection \$20.27. We are getting ready for our West Florida annual conference, which will convene in St. James AME church, Marianna, Wednesday after the third Sunday in November. The members of the Home Mission Benefit Society held the annual convention here at Show Hill AME church, Oct. 22nd thru 24th, which was a success. Plenty of gospel preaching and singing and plenty of food.  
SOCIAL NEWS

# OPEN LETTER TO FLORIDA NAACP BRANCHES

Dear co-workers:

During the past three years the energies of the Florida State N. A. A. C. P. Conference have been devoted primarily to the organization of senior branches in various sections of the state. In 1941 the NAACP spirit in Florida was at a low ebb. Only nine active branches were registered in the national office. By October, 1943, this number had grown to 20, and during our annual meeting in Ocala last October 33 branches were reported. Today Florida is proud of the fact that approximately 40 branches are scattered over the state. Among the branches that have been completed this year are: Punta Gorda, Winter Haven, Daytona Beach, and Ft. Myers. And the good work continues. Contacts have recently been made in Winter Park, Moore Haven, Perry, and Ormond, and it is our hope that these will soon develop favorably.

So busy have we been with the work of the senior branches that, in a large measure, our youth work has been neglected. We cannot afford to permit this any longer. Our young people are the future hope of the race. If they are not trained for the proper leadership, the momentous gains that we are making now may eventually be lost.

Florida has bright prospects for a broad youth program. Each senior branch should form the nucleus for an active youth council or college chapter. Several branches already have organized youth councils. Among the latest of these is the Seminole County Youth Council, which was organized in February. Daytona Beach has appointed a youth advisor, and it is hoped that the organization of their youth group will soon be completed. Steps to this end also are being taken in Brevard County.

We now call your attention to the fact that the national office has designated April 8-14 as NAACP Youth Week. April, therefore, should be a good month for us to concentrate our efforts on the organizing of youth councils in our various communities. Only 25 youth councils are needed to start a youth council of the NAACP. Persons under 21 yrs. are eligible for youth membership, and persons under 21 may join for 50c per year.

Please feel free to write us for further information.

Sincerely yours,  
HARRY T. MOORE, President  
Fla. State Conference, NAACP.

## Florida State Conference of the National Association

for the

### Advancement of Colored People

OPEN LETTER TO FLORIDA NAACP BRANCHES

Mims, Florida, July 24, 1946.

Dear Co-workers:

Although there has been a remarkable growth in the number of senior branches in Florida during the past four years, the development of youth councils has lagged far behind. According to information released by the National office in July, 1945, there were only seven councils listed in Florida: Belle Glade, Jacksonville, Cocoa (Brevard County), Lake Wales, Mims (Brevard County), Seminole County, Tampa. During 1945 College Chapters also were organized at Bethune-Cookman and F. A. & M. College. We understand that several branches are making efforts to work up councils, but, with the exception of Suwannee County, we have not received definite information as to the success of these efforts.

Our second annual state youth meeting will be held in Jacksonville August 23-25, and it is our earnest desire to have every youth council in Florida represented. Even if your branch has not yet completed the organization of a council, we suggest that you send some of your youth members as delegates to this conference. They may be inspired to go back and help to work up an active youth council.

Please let us know just what degree of success you are having with your youth work. Also write us for further information about the state meeting.

HARRY T. MOORE

Executive Secretary.

Florida State Conference, NAACP.

## 1943 Organize New NAACP Branch

DELAND, Fla., Aug. 19—Public spirited citizens of Deland gathered at the Recreation center Friday evening to organize a branch of the NAACP. Because of the splendid groundwork laid by Messrs. Allen L. Attaway, C. W. Harris, Thomas Allison, Robinson, and other members of the local committee, over 60 memberships had been secured before the meeting opened. Application for charter was made by 71 members.

Miss Annie E. Moore, of Mims, spoke on "Mental Servitude in the American Negro." The president of the Florida State conference spoke briefly about the origin and work of the NAACP.

The following officers were elected: Allen L. Attaway, president; Thomas Allison, vice president; C. W. Harris, secretary; Mrs. Carrie Allison, assistant secretary; Mrs. Annie Benbow, treasurer, and Rev. Sneed, chaplain.

## L. W. NAACP To Have Inaugural Program

The inaugural services of the Lake Wales branch of the NAACP will be held at First Baptist Institutional church, Rev. W. M. Sbith, D.D., pastor, December 5, 3:30 p. m. Those in charge of the program are: W. J. H. Black, president of the local branch, Mr. Harold King, chairman of program committee and Mr. Harry T. Moore, state president. A very interesting and inspiring program has been planned. Music will be rendered by the Roosevelt High school chorus. Representatives will be present from the various branches of the state.

# Florida NAACP, Voters League Directors Meet in Orlando

ORLANDO, Fla.—(ANP)—Asserting that the object of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was not to condone lawlessness or to prohibit the application of the law to anyone who is guilty of any misconduct, Harry F. Moore, state president, opened the meeting of the directors of the N. A. A. C. P. and Progressive Voters League here Sunday morning with representatives from more than 90 per cent of the 49 state branches present.

In his report to the directors, President Moore reviewed the progress of the organization over the past five years and pointed out that the number of chapters had increased from nine to 49. Fort Lauderdale was pointed out as evidence that the NAACP is gaining widespread recognition by its endeavors. The chapter was the outcome of the work done by the organization which enlightened the citizens of the community that unity was needed in any community if it is to hope to receive the benefits of democracy.

The matter of setting up chapters in small communities was discussed and the president suggested that since the previous amendment to grant charters to groups of 25 had not been approved by the national body, it is advisable for the small groups to associate themselves with the nearest chapter and for the chartered chapter to recognize this group as a committee in its respective community.

In a plea to the directors, G. D. Rogers, president of the Central Life Insurance company, Tampa, and also representative from the Manatee county chapter, urged that publicity be given to the cases that the NAACP has under consideration in all the liberal publications, regardless of race. "There are plenty of liberal and fair-minded people in the South who will give publicity to our cause if it is presented with wisdom and we have facts to back up our contentions," the insurance executive continued.

During the reports from the various chapters, Rev. Black, representative from the Lake Wales chapter, told the audience that if the ministers in their community did not come to the NAACP, take the NAACP to them.

# STATE N. A. A. C. P. CONFERENCE AT OCALA

ST. PETERSBURG.—(By Olive B. McLin)—The Fifth Annual NAACP Conference of Florida Branches was held at Covenant Bapt. church, Ocala, October 13-15.

The theme was "Unrestricted Suffrage." The meeting was well planned by both the program committee and the Ocala branch of which Mr. E. D. Davis is the president. It was one of the most interesting and largely attended in the history of the conference. One of the striking points of attendance was the representation of so many West Fla. branches, the part of Florida that we know is so far below from a civilized standpoint for America's least favored minority group—The Negro.

Miss Ella Baker, national director of branches, was present almost throughout the meeting making this another highlight of the meeting. Her dynamic self-expression, her ability to simplify matters because of her thorough knowledge of the work naturally gives this interest.

The majority of delegates showed a deep seated interest on planning and exchanging ideas on the very best methods of solving questions that when answered will insure real democracy for all.

Aside for the very fine welcome address by Mayor Carrol Fraser and the informative and interesting address of President Moore, very splendid and helpful addresses were given by the conference theme by Mr. Jno. Buggs, principal of Fessenden; Mr. G. D. Rogers, Central Life president; Mr. R. W. Wa'man, Tampa; Mr. M. P. Rooks, Clearwater and Rev. M. C. Strachap, Tampa.

Very beautiful and appropriate music was furnished by the glee club of Fessenden. On Sunday a very stirring oration was rendered by Miss Evangeline Moore.

There were about ninety delegates and twenty-six of the 33 Florida branches represented.

The officers are: H. T. Moore, Mims, president; Dr. C. F. Duncan, Jacksonville, vice pres.; Mr. Frank C. Burts, Tampa, vice pres.; O. B. McLin, St. Petersburg, sec.; Emma Pickett, Tampa, asst. sec.; Rev. K. S. Johnson, Sanford, treas.

Saturday afternoon was given in part to the Progressive Voters League of which Mr. F. E. Broughton is president and of which much more will be said later.

# PEOPLE OUST HIM BUT HE GOES TO CIR. COURT

E. Norman Lacey, former vice president of the Tampa Branch of the NAACP, has filed suit in the circuit court against Rev. M. C. Strachan, and officers of the Tampa Branch, contesting the ouster which eliminated Lacey and his group from any official connection with the Association.

The suit was filed October 12 with Bryan and Bryan given as attorneys for Lacey, and it came one day after Mrs. Ella J. Baker, director of Branches of the National Office had come to Tampa to hold a special election to settle a long standing dispute in the Tampa branch.

Lacey has been the storm center of branch activities for several years. He has also been at odds with the State Conference of Branches of which Harry T. Moore is president, last year pulling the Tampa branch out of the State Conference because the Moore group would not accede to some of the demands of Lacey.

A special election was held in August to attempt to settle some of the disputes which had arisen in the Tampa branch. This meeting was held at Mt. Moriah Primitive Baptist church, and the church was crowded. Lacey was ousted and although he sat in the meeting, he made no protest. He went out, however, and continued to use the N. A. A. C. P. label, using the title of vice president for himself. This was the office from which he had been ousted.

Lacey and his group filed written protests to the National office claiming a violation of the law and urging action. The national office answered by sending Mrs. Baker to hold the special election in an effort to find out the will of the Tampa people. Mrs. Baker tried to be very fair in every respect, giving any group the opportunity to file a ticket, and also to see that nothing but qualified persons participated in the election. Lacey was not present.

The same slate that was elected in August was again elected at the special election held by Mrs. Baker. In fact, three tickets was presented to Mrs. Baker, and all of them contained the same names of candidates. This meeting was held at the St. Paul AME church and the huge auditorium was packed.

There was not a dissenting voice in this special election, nor in the one held in August.

However, on the day following the special election, Lacey and his small group filed suit against the branch, seeking to continue to hold the offices from which they had been ousted by the overwhelming vote of the people.

Carrier  
12/25/43

## County Forms NAACP Branch

STUART, Fla.—The recently organized Martin County branch of the NAACP completed organization here last Sunday and a total of 77 members made application for charter.

The meeting followed an intensive campaign headed by Rev. H. W. Williams and an energetic committee. Aiding in the planning were Harry T. Moore of Mims, president of the Florida State Conference and Elbert Silas, president of the Brevard County branch.

### OFFICERS ELECTED

The state president was among those who attended the organizational meeting held at the Stuart AME church. Other visitors included Rev. F. Ellen of the Fort Pierce branch; N. N. Gilbert of Brevard county and Rev. James W. Williams of the state executive committee.

Officers elected were Wesley Albritton, president; Mrs. Gertrude Walden, vice president; Mrs. Ora Del Hamilton, secretary; Mrs. Julia De Bose, treasurer.

VV

## Lake Wales

We, the members of Allen Temple AME church are happy to have Rev. L. Dickerson come to us again, this week. He preached over many happy souls Sunday night. Total amount raised, \$111.16. Our big S. S. rally is coming off the second Sunday asking all to report. Mr. Harry Tyler, supt.; Rev. L. D. Kennedy, pastor. The Jr. missionaries led by Mrs. Mabel Carroll are still working hard on their contest. The Eager Girls are all smiles, each is trying to get the beautiful prize. The Lake Wales Branch of the NAACP staged one of the greatest mass meetings here Sunday that was ever held in this city. The principal address was delivered by Prof. Edward Davis of Ocala who pinched hit for Mr. Harry T. Moore of Mims who was organizing a branch at Stuart. Music for the occasion was furnished by the Roosevelt Choral group and the Four Wonders Gospel Singers. Tea was served at the beautiful home our guests from 5:30 to 6:30. The program was in charge of the local president.

MARTIN COUNTY 12/18/43

Martin county can boast along with other counties of its N. A. A. C. P. It was organized Sunday afternoon at 3 p. m. at St. Paul AME church with an enrollment of 77 members. The following officers were elected: Dea. Wesley Albritton, pres.; Mrs. G. D. Walden, sec.; Mrs. Julia A. B. Debose, treas. Visitors of other branches were state president, Harry T. Moore, Mr. Gilbert of Titusville; Mr. Fluellan of Ft. Pierce and Rev. W. Williams of Ft. Pierce. After the organization, the group were served chicken, potato salad dressing, cake, ice cream and other delicatessens. The Silent Workers club of Mt. Calvary will sponsor a musical tea Sunday afternoon at 6 p. m. Everyone is invited. Music will be furnished by the school's glee club. The Stuart Training school had on its campus a few days ago, J. A. Colston, president of Bethune-Cookman college, Daytona Beach, also Mr. Maxwell Saxon. Lurine Green, Ruth Miller, accompanied by Mrs. E. H. Grundy went to Tampa to attend the "Tilt of the Maroon and Gold." They reported having a fine trip.

Weekly

1/3/48

PAGE NINE

# Rev. Strachan Lauded For Fine Work In Tampa NAACP

Rev. M. C. Strachan, retiring president of the Tampa branch of the NAACP, was praised at the last regular meeting for his outstanding achievements during 11 years of leadership.

The incoming president, Mathew Gregory, started the praise for Rev. Strachan by saying all he knows about the organization he learned it under Rev. Strachan. He pictured the organization of 31 growing to 1600 under the leadership of Rev. Strachan.

He was followed in praise for the venerable leader by Frank C. Burts, Rev. E. J. Wright, W. D. Williams and others. Rev. Strachan responded with grateful remembrances of his long service and pledged his cooperation.

The organization also pledged full support to Harry T. Moore, executive secretary at Mims. The president requested the secretary to find out what the Tampa branch owes towards maintenance of the State office. Mr. Burts urged that we stand close to the state office. This was the view of Rev. Strachan and Mr. Broughton. They told of the untiring efforts of Mr. Moore and of his fine contributions, and stated



ELDER M. C. STRACHAN

we must maintain this office at all costs.

The program for 1948 was outlined by Mr. Gregory and the members adjourned to build an outstanding work for 1948.

AT DECEMBER 31, 1948

## Fla. Report Lands NAACP Vote Fight

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla., Dec. 23.—Credit for the important part played by Negro voters in the recent election was given to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and its "militant fight" to secure for Negroes in the South the right to vote, in this year's annual report of the Florida State Conference of NAACP branches.

Harry T. Moore, executive secretary of the Florida State Conference, noted in the report the effectiveness of the Negro vote throughout the country in the 1948 election and stated that the Negro vote in Florida provided the balance of power responsible for the election of Governor Fuller Warren.

"Had it not been for the NAACP's militant fight against the so-called white primaries," declared Mr. Moore, "Negroes would have had no voice in selecting the next governor of our state. If the NAACP had done no more than this, it would be worthy of the support of every Negro in Florida."

Mr. Moore also stated in his report that the political unity of Negro voters in Florida this year was another factor in the political success of this group of voters.



# Florida Sentinel

A PAPER FOR THINKING NEGROES

BOX 261D — PHONE M3808  
Published every Saturday by the Florida  
Sentinel Publishing Co., Inc.

C. BLYTHE ANDREWS, Editor-Publisher

Member of National Negro Publishers Association  
Circulation: Prices: One Year \$4; Six  
Months, \$3.00; Three Months, \$2.00; Single  
Copy, 10c.

National Advertising Representative:  
ASSOCIATED PUBLISHERS, INC.  
502 Fifth Avenue, New York City

Entered as second class matter December 5,  
1945, at the post office at Tampa, Fla., under  
no. of March 3, 1949.

Address all mail and make checks or money  
orders payable to the FLORIDA SENTINEL,  
rather than to individuals.

## NAACP NEEDS MONEY

Florida has an unusual NAACP setup and all of us should be happy over it. We have in Harry T. Moore an outstanding executive secretary who is fulltime on the job.

Mr. Moore and the NAACP program cannot operate without money. Most of us never realize the importance of this organization until something happens, usually in our town, or to our friends or families. Then we rush for action, and expect immediate results.

This is an appeal for money to support the NAACP program in Florida. Every Negro could very easily give \$1 a year and make this the best civil liberties program in the South.

# State NAACP Branch Meeting at Lake Wales

LAKE WALES—Florida branches of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will hold their seventh annual conference at First Baptist Institutional Church here Nov. 28 thru 30. Among those attending will be Miss Lucille Black, national membership secretary.

The general theme of the conference this year is: "An Active Branch of the NAACP in Every Community." Time will be devoted to a discussion of the problems of local branches and of methods by which branches can carry on a more active and militant program in their respective communities.

Miss Black, well known for her work in membership drives, is attending the conference in an effort to aid the fall membership campaign. Although Florida has a large number of NAACP branches, they still fall below their membership quota for the current year.

## THMOAS TO SPEAK

Sunday afternoon will highlight the three-day conference when Atty. Lawson E. Thomas of Miami will address the session. He is one of the State's most brilliant criminal lawyers and a graduate of the University of Michigan School of Law.

During the past three months, he has been the defense attorney for Aaron Quince, Dayton lad, sentenced to die for the slaying of a white woman in Holly Hill. Due to his brilliant attack against a "illy-white" jury system of Volusia County, Circuit Judge Jackson recently ordered the county commissioners to "purge" the entire jury list and refill it "according to law."

## SESSIONS ON FRIDAY

Registration is slated to begin Friday, Nov. 28, at 11 A. M., and the opening session is to get underway at 1:30 P. M. At 4 P. M., on the same day, there will be a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Progressive Voters' League of Florida at the same church.

Friday night, the host branch at Lake Wales, will present C. LeRoy Hacker of the Beth Cookman College faculty as principal speaker. Business sessions will be held on Saturday and the evening will close Sunday afternoon with a mammoth mass meeting.

The host branch, under the leadership of the Rev. W. J. H. E. is making plans for this to be the most successful of the confabs. Since the conference being held in central Florida, a large delegation is expected. A tour of Bok Tower has been planned by the host chapter.

# Dunbar High School Notes

American Education Week observed at Dunbar last week, marked by a program given in auditorium of the school Friday afternoon. The program was: 1, Song, National Anthem; 2, Scripture, chant "The Lord's Prayer"; 3, solo, "The Characteristics of an Educated Man," by Lord; 4, solo, Mrs. E. W. Bar; 5, presentation of second speaker, W. H. White; 6, address, "Enrich Home and Community Life," by Salters; 7, song, "America"; 8, response, E. L. Barker; 9, announcements; 10, dismissal.

The Parent-Teacher Association convened Friday night at 7 P. M.

# Riviera Beach News

Mrs. Eldora McBride Reporter

A Local Branch of NAACP was organized in Riviera Beach, Florida, on last Monday night April 12, 1948 at the Church of God of which the Rev. Fred Williams is pastor.

Mr. Harry T. Moore is given credit for this New Set-Up which was an impressive one. He was

accompanied by his wife Mrs. Moore who was also there in the organization.

Officers elected are: Mr. Eddie Black Jr. President, Elder Fred Williams Vice President, Mrs. Dollie Paulk, Secretary, Mrs. Cora Wadly, Treasurer, and Mr. Willie White Chairman of the Membership Drive. Others present were Mrs. C. H. Blach, Mr. Joe Paulk, Mrs. Beatrice Jones, and the reporter Mrs. Eldora McBride.

The reporter Mrs. McBride is asking all persons interested in this worthy organization, to see Mr. Willie White Chairman of the membership drive. He will give you all the information you desire.

BIG -- NEW

## At Interracial Picnic Says Committee

LOUISVILLE, —(ANP)—An interracial picnic, slated to be held in Shawnee Park Saturday under the

ment menu consists of dances, parties, games, outings, tours and a mammoth parade that will wind its way in and out of the picturesque thoroughfares of this beautiful city. An 11th District Barbecue is planned for Virginia Beach as sponsored by Calverts Liquor Distilleries. There will be a reunion, too, for old friends and battle-worn comrades who will reach out the old

# 32 Branches Represented at State NAACP Conference In Lake Wales; Edward Davis Elected State President

## Plans Memorial Services for Elks



Ex. Ruler Rigsbee

## Mrs. Willis Hostess To Sewing Circle

The regular monthly meeting of the Social Sewing Circle was held November 16, at the home of Mrs. Allie Willis, 706 South Lee Street. In the absence of the president, Mrs. E. Brabham who was attending the association, the meeting was conducted by Mrs. Mary Day. At the close of devotion, a report of the in-gathering was made by Mrs. Florence Cotton. Refreshments served by the hostess was enjoyed by all

## Harry T. Moore Remains State Executive Secretary; Branches To Elect Advisory Board Members

More than 60 delegates, representing branches from Panama City to Miami, gathered in Lake Wales Nov. 28-30 to attend the Seventh Annual Meeting of the Florida State Conference of NAACP Branches. Thirty-two branches registered for this meeting.

The opening session was held at 1:30 P. M. Friday, with Mr. J. Maxwell Charlow, president of the Plant City Branch, presiding. After the executive secretary had rendered his Annual Report, delegates joined in a lively discussion of the topic: "Problems of Local Branches." At 4:30 P. M. a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Progressive Voters' League of Florida was held. Members discussed plans whereby more active units of the Voters' League can be organized within the next few weeks, so that a heavy registration of voters can be secured for the May primaries.

At 7:30 P. M. the Lake Wales Branch sponsored a mass meeting and local program, at which time Major C. Leroy Hacker of Bethune Cookman College delivered the keynote address. The audience was thrilled as Major Hacker discussed the many problems facing our group; and as he sounded a warning that we still have a long way to go. Mayor R. E. Bradley extended words of welcome to the delegates.

The session at 9:30 A. M. Saturday was presided over by Mr. E. K. Bass, the energetic president of the

Lucille Black, national membership secretary, then led in a general discussion of the Fall Membership Campaign. It was revealed that Florida branches have reported only 8,219 memberships this year, and delegates were urged to return home and launch an "all-out" effort for memberships during the month of December.

President Edward D. Davis presided over the session Saturday afternoon. The Conference adopted resolutions praising the report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights and urging early enactment of legislation recommended therein. Other resolutions condemned recent activities of the Ku Klux Klan, the proposed attempt to circumvent the Gaines Decision thru the Regional College Plan, the humiliating signs about Negroes put out by the Lewis Turpentine Still in Hernando County, and the jim-crow signs allegedly put up by Florida A. & M. College officials at a recent football game.

The following officers were elected: Edward D. Davis, president; W. J. H. Black, Lake Wales, and V. D. Hawkins, Panama City, vice presidents; Mrs. E. A. Pickett, Tampa, secretary; Mrs. M. L. Mike, Leesburg, assistant secretary; Rev. K. S. Johnson, Sanford, treasurer; Harry T. Moore, Mims, executive secretary. Hilton Turner, Chipley; R. A. Reddick, Live Oak; Rev. R. H. Johnson, Orlando; J. A. Whitehurst, St. Petersburg; and R. W. Davis, Ft. Lauderdale, were named members of the

discussions with regard to Bernadotte's safety. His report declared that Jewish terrorist groups "enjoyed a record of movement and little came up to the Sept. 20 ordinance on giving such groups." He appealed to the UN Security Council to "take urgent measures to see that criminal hands are controlled in Palestine."

## Jamaicans Charged With Posing As Citizens

MIAMI.—Charges of posing as American citizens have been filed against eight Jamaican Negroes seized here since Aug. 11. Immigration officers said all eight attempted to enter the country by commercial airline, relying on fake birth certificates to prove citizenship.

Edward Stewart, insurance salesman of Mount Vernon, N. Y., has been put under \$3,500 bond on charges of attempting to smuggle in three of the eight persons arrested.

and Mr. Paul Robeson. The great thought in the minds of the people was the difference of promising to do a thing and actually doing. It sizzled through the veins of the audience. The people listened attentively to grasp a program that will be realized to benefit mankind. Mr. Paul Robeson, the great artist in song, delighted the audience, by singing a large number of beautiful selections among them "Ol Man River". He was accompanied at the piano by Mr. Lawrence Brown of Jacksonville, Fla. It was a worthwhile program. The people sat wherever they wished every body seemed comfortable.

## Killed Shooting

CHICAGO.—Lawrence Haggard, 48, was killed when he invaded the Central Police Station and began firing at the officers on duty. Patrolman Daniel Marsh, one of those on duty at the headquarters station, said the man walked in and began firing without a word.

seven dormitory-homes, of a central administration building with a hospital, receiving center, kitchen and dining room facilities, a power plant, water system and vocational building as the initial development in Florida's first home for delinquent Negro girls. This project has developed following the recommendations of a committee of prominent Negroes appointed in 1946 by Governor Millard F. Caldwell and headed by Dr. William H. Gray, Jr., President of Florida A. & M. College. The committee reviewed the problems of delinquency in the state and Eartha M. M. White, head of the Clara White Mission of Jacksonville, and Negro social organizations assumed the leading role in following through the recommendations and urging that the home be built.

At a recent meeting of the Interracial Committee of the Florida State Conference of Social Work, upon the motion of Dr. Gray, it was recommended that one of the buildings of the proposed correctional school be named the Eartha M. M. White home. It is reported that the Governor and State Cabinet have accepted this recommendation.

## Murder 'Confession' Throws Light On Dixie Justice

ATLANTA.—(ANP)—A murder confession by Clarence Alburty who was in a Georgia prison camp at the time of the slaying indicated the third degree tactics of many Dixie police.

Alburty, 38, was arrested in Camilla, Ga., two weeks after a Georgia stenographer and a University of Kentucky student were slain at Ormond Beach, Fla. Sheriff W. M. Harris said Alburty had signed a confession that he stood guard while another Negro shot the youth, raped the stenographer and then shot her. Alburty is now being held in Florida without charges being placed against him as officers hunt the accomplice named in the "confession."

## Alabama Whites Indicted For Attacking Colored Women

WETUMPKA, Ala.—(ANP)—Two white men were indicted by a grand jury here last week of attacking two Negro women and robbing their husbands. The two men, who will go on trial Nov. 22, are John C. Howard, Jr., 30, and Jack Oliver, 20, both of Elmore county.

According to Sheriff Lester L. Holley, the two white men stopped a car in which the colored couples were riding. Pointing a gun at them, the whites forced the Negro men to get out of the car, took their money and chased them away with shots above their heads.

## NAACP NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEETS



Members of NAACP Nominating Committee meet with Association staff members. Seated, left to right: Dr. E. L. Leach, president of Mich. NAACP State Conference; Mrs. Juanita K. Craft, state organizer of Texas State Conference; and Harry T. Moore, executive secretary of Florida State Conference. Standing at left is Madison S. Jones, Jr., NAACP Administrative Assistant; and at right, Gloster L. Current, Director of Branches.

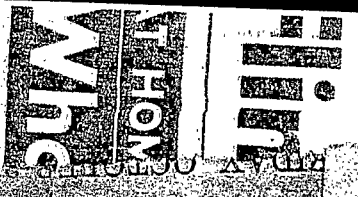
for a white  
"It is to  
dolph, "th  
upon the  
which hin  
iority rig  
firemen p  
ing on d  
taining ne  
issue, the  
tive Engir  
is largely  
famous S  
ference A  
principal  
land, and  
jurisdictio  
bia courts  
definitely  
opinions  
Brotherho  
who will r  
concluded

## Segregation Declared

OKLAH  
regation  
have been  
a three-j  
ner in th  
University  
G. W. Mc  
a retired  
McLaur  
school to  
tor's deg  
rollment  
officials a  
his race a

Shown  
plans for  
reunion t  
ing. Sun  
leaving t  
Temple  
braska a





# List of Voters In School District No. 1 Is Published Today

A list of more than 2,000 qualified voters for next Tuesday's biennial school election is published by the Star-Advocate today. The list includes every registered voter in School District No. 1, which embraces Titusville, Mims, Indian River City and other communities in north Brevard County. It was furnished by W. J. Bailey, county supervisor of registration.

The list includes names of 1248 voters in the Titusville precinct, which is the largest in the district. Other precincts included, with the number of registered voters, are: Indian River City 98, Mims 443, Aurantia 66, Wilson 57, La Grange 75, Allenhurst 73.

- Roberts, M. B.
- Roberts, Mrs. M. B.
- Simmons, Bertha
- Simmons, I. O.
- Simmons, Mrs. I. O.
- Simmons, R. E.
- Warren, Mary
- Warren, Joseph
- White, Macy
- Waring, Louise
- Whithorn, Guy

### Precinct 2-A—Titusville

- Atkinson, Charley
- Adams, D. H.
- Adams, Lela N.
- Adams, Sally L.
- Alderman, Geo.
- Alderman, Florida
- Arkinson, James
- Avery, Amy
- Alexander, Artie
- Adams, Alex
- Andrews, Mrs. J. M. Jr.
- Ashcraft, E. H.
- Adams, Osler
- Andrews, Robert W.
- Atchison, G. S.
- Atkinson, Bessie
- Adkins, J. R.
- Austin, C. R.
- Austin, Mrs. E. R.
- Anchers, K. M.
- Adkins, Mrs. Elsie
- Almond, H. H.
- Almond, Mrs. Etta
- Austin, John, C.
- Austin, Mildred
- Adam, Mollie
- Alexander, Jessie
- Avant, H. H.
- Avant, Lillie
- Avant, C. O.
- Avant, Mrs. Sarah
- Avant, Cecil
- Anchers, Hazel Mack
- Allen, Francis S.
- Avery, Bddie
- Armstrong, John
- Armstrong, Lola
- Atkinson, Louise
- Baldwin, R. L.
- Brady, L. A.
- Battle, C. M.
- Boyd, L. C.
- Bishop, J. S.
- Bethea, Herbert
- Brown, Samuel A.
- Battle, Ethel L.
- Bishop, Louise
- Baldwin, Florence
- Bishop, Berdie
- Barthart, Marion
- Bishop, Lawrence
- Botsford, N. L.
- Botsford, Edna M.
- Bennett, Willard Hall
- Bennett, W. D.
- Brockett, Katharine
- Baldwin, Davis Lee

### Precinct 1—LaGrange

- Brooks, B. B.
- Burt, D. E.
- Burt, Laura F.
- Brooks, C. D.
- Brooks, W. O.
- Chaudoin, R. R.
- Carlile, Henry
- Carlile, C. W.
- Carlile, D. W.
- Carlile, Earnie
- Curtis, Joanna
- Chaudoin, H. L.
- Carlile, E. B.
- Carlile, Mrs. Edna
- Chaudoin, Jane A.
- Carlile, Etta B.
- Carlile, O. L.
- Carlile, Elizabeth
- Campbell, Lavinia
- Campbell, Hoyt
- Cant, Andrew M.
- Cant, Mrs. Mabel
- Diamond, E. G.
- Diamond, Mrs. Leota
- Darby, John Martin
- Dye, W. E.
- Dye, Mrs. W. E.
- Bennis, J. D.
- Bennis, Eva

### Precinct 16

- Andrews, Ed
- Alwine, Art
- Adkins, L. E.
- Adkins, Mrs.
- Andrea, A.
- Abrens, Herb
- Atkinson, H.
- Atkinson, Et
- Anderson, R.
- Abram, Roov
- Abram, Iowa
- Abram, Inda
- Abram, May
- Awthey, J.
- Atwood, H.
- Abrams, Can
- Bevil, Thos
- Bevil, Higdon
- Britton, Lillian R.

- Turner, S. A.
- Thomas, Washington
- Thomas, Preston
- Thomas, Elizabeth
- Thomas, Suphrond
- Tillis, T. C.
- Threlkeld, Howard
- Threlkeld, A. L.
- Thomas, Eliza
- Thomas, Earl
- Van Zandt, H. D.
- Van Zandt, Doris
- Valette, G. E.
- Van Allen Docia
- Vale, M. E. Mrs.
- Wilson, J. P.
- Wright, P. H.
- Williams, Ed
- Whitaker, C. H.
- Wilson, E. R.
- Wittendorf, F. W.
- Walker, Handy
- Wager, Rosa R.
- Wilson, Ella R.
- Woodhead, Anna
- Walker, Gertrude
- Williams Isoce
- Wilson, Frances P.
- Whitaker, Almona
- Wright, Annie G.
- Ward, Clara A.
- Whitaker, Henry
- Worley, Bertie
- Walters, Fannie Budge
- Weist, Earnest
- Wager, Regimold
- Wildor, J. R.
- Wentworth, A. D.
- Wattwood, H. E.
- Walsh, M. E.
- Wilson, Sear
- Wilson, W. D.
- Wilson, L. S.
- Whitaker, J. E.
- Walsh, Alice F.
- White, F. W.
- White, Fred W.
- Williams, H. T.
- Warren B. P.
- Willis, Katharine B.
- Wager, C. R.
- Wilkinson, John F.
- Wilkinson, Clara L.
- Willis, O. K.
- Wall, Chas. W.
- Wattwood, Grace
- Williams, Pearl
- Webb, Walter
- Webb, Mary Louis
- Williams, Minnie C.
- Wilkinson, Dorothy
- Williams, Jack
- Wynn, Clarence
- Warren, Ella
- Warren, Earnest
- Welcher, Wesley
- Williams, Rosco
- Wilson, Ruby
- Williams, Collins
- Waters, B. D.
- Waters, Mrs. Ruth
- Woods, James Pasco
- Walker, Hans T.
- Wager, Wm. R.
- Ward, Harvey C.
- Ward, Florence H.
- Winterhager, W. T.
- Wright, Clayton
- Wells, J. E.
- Walker, Julia E.
- Woodhead, E. S.
- Wilson, Harold G.
- Williams, Raymond

STAPLES

