



Laura Jane Musser and  
Family Papers.

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Ed Walther  
To Gen. Rel.  
Long Prairie, Minnesota



**VIA AIR MAIL**

17-B  
3

Via Air - Mail

Miss Laura Jane Musser  
The Waldorf - Astoria: 17B  
New York City, New York

11 P.M., Tuesday, April 16, 1946  
Long Prairie, Minnesota

My DEAR LAURA JANE—

Certainly hope you gals are  
having a "Super" time - I'm sure my hope is well  
justified, as I just seem to know you are. Your  
Kindness, is beyond words, and I'm sure you will never  
here the end of our verbal appreciation - but, you  
know it was well worth your while—

TAKE it easy now and have

Loads of fun—

Gratefully,

— Hub —

Mrs. John F. Rose  
110 - 4th St. N.E.  
Little Falls, Minn.



Miss Laura Jane Musser  
310 Riverside Drive #1014  
New York City 25, N.Y.



Things to do  
tomorrow -

Go to Antique



November 10, 1946

Dear Laura Jane,

While I'm over at my Mother's, I thought it would be a good chance to type you a letter. Did I ever enjoy your long newsy letter! It was so interesting and I had been so anxious to hear all about your apartment, etc. Good for you! so you are cooking - next time you come to see me, I'll let you make a meal for me. ha ha. Your apt. sounds wonderful and I know how much you must enjoy it after living in a hotel so long. When are you coming home? I know you told me when you left you'd be home in December so I am looking forward to your coming. We'll have to get together during the holidays and make the most of your being at home. Perhaps you won't have so much company at your house so you'll be more free--you certainly were busy this summer.

Mary and I just got back from spending two weeks' in Minneapolis visiting Johnnie's folks and some of my relatives. They surely enjoyed our visit and were they ever crazy about little Mary. They have a kitty and if you could have seen Mary with it - she just chased it all over the place and heckled it to death - pulling its tail, etc. She doesn't walk yet but creeps fast enough to make up for it. I imagine by the time she is a year she'll be walking well though. She is having a hard time getting her teeth - as a matter of fact, her little gums were black and blue for a few days. I took her to Dr. Longley and he broke one tooth through which certainly has helped her a lot.

By the way, in a recent issue of Life magazine there was quite an article about Miss L. Brogan's shop. Did you happen to see it? I guess my little girl can be classed with the Vanderbilts and Roosevelts as they buy their children's clothes there. There were about 3 pages showing various clothes for the children. I guess I should frame those things you sent Mary instead of letting her wear them.

By the way, I have bought all the furniture I have in my apt. from my sister. They feel they won't be able to build for several years and in the meantime this would be getting worn so they sold everything to me. I have made some changes already more to my liking.



I sold the rug in the living room and bought a gold rug which will blend in beautifully with the davenport set. Also sold the desk and have bought a drop-leaf table as I get tired of eating in the kitchen all the time and like to be able to eat in another room--even if it is the living room.

I'm trying to get some knitting done for Christmas and doing a little shopping so will be kept busy until then. I'm also having the Thanksgiving dinner at my apt. Time really goes by quite fast.

I don't know any gossip or news as I've been gone for a while but nothing exciting has happened, I guess.

Drop me a line when you find time and let me know when you are coming home so I can plan on your coming.

Love from

*Dune and Mary*

Shirley's address:

*Mrs. Robert L. Anderson*

*1309 E. 2d St.*

*Ottumwa, Iowa*

*Tonite you must be listening to Marian Anderson.*

*Wish I were with you!*

*Your letter was the longest I've ever received from anyone and I surely enjoyed it.*



Arthur Husted  
260 Riverside Drive  
N.Y.C.



Miss Laura Lane HUSSEY

Waldorf Astoria Hotel

Park Ave and 50<sup>th</sup>

N.Y.C.

17B  
24

ARTHUR NEWSTEAD  
260 RIVERSIDE DRIVE  
NEW YORK CITY

Tuesday:

Dear Laura Jane:

I am not quite sure when we made  
the appointment for your lesson this week, was  
it for Thurs or Friday? Please make it on  
Friday at 3-15? I will be back by then, and  
bring me your variations, I will be so glad to see and  
hear them. This week is so crowded with  
exam etc. a Thursday lesson is not so easy  
for me, but if the Friday 3-15 is ~~not possible~~  
call me early in the morning Wed or Thursday.

Please excuse this hasty scrawl

Art. Newstead

H. H. Duncan  
Lake Umbagog  
Hartford, Conn.



Miss Laura Jane Musser  
310 Riverside Drive  
New York City, N.Y.

Mrs. James W. Owens

Lake Umbagog  
Hartford, Conn.  
Oct. 8, 1946

Dearest Laura June,

How very happy I was  
to know that you called!  
I'm ever so anxious to see  
you. It was wonderful of you  
to offer me your hospitality

when I'm in the city. May  
I stay with you Friday  
night? If you have made  
any plans, please don't change  
them on my account. I  
shall call you Friday afternoon  
at one o'clock.

I'm just so anxious to  
see you!

Your friend,  
Helen



A. Newstead  
260 Riverside Drive

N.Y.C. (25)



1713  
30

Miss Laura Jane Musser

Hotel Waldorf Astoria

Park Avenue and 50<sup>th</sup>

N.Y.C.

ARTHUR NEWSTEAD  
260 RIVERSIDE DRIVE  
NEW YORK CITY

May 7<sup>th</sup> 46

Dear Laura Jane:

I looked up the lesson, there were  
three in January, 11-18 and 25<sup>th</sup>.

I can give you a lesson at 3-15  
on Friday May 17<sup>th</sup> if that is convenient,  
and I will look forward to hearing your  
theme and variations. Let me know

if May 17<sup>th</sup> is not possible as I could then  
have your lesson on Thursday at <sup>5-30</sup> 5 o'clock,

but the Friday would be better for me, so I will expect  
you then unless until then  
I hear to the contrary. Yours. Art Newstead



Miss Laura Jane Masser  
310 Riverside Drive  
New York City, N.Y.

Apr 10 14

W. Duncan  
Lake Kenosia  
Danbury, Conn.

Mrs. James W. Owens

November 6, 1946

Dear Laura Jane,

Yes, with joy! I am waiting for the tenth to go with you to the concert. Since I have a lesson on the week end may I stay with you Saturday

night as well as Sunday. I had hoped to return to Hamburg with Miss Anderson after the concert, but she is staying in for a broadcast on Monday.

It will be heavenly to stay with you.

Affectionately  
Valores

Mrs. H. E. Walther, P.O. Box #36

LAKEVIEW HOTEL

"Overlooking Lake Bemidji"

Bemidji, Minnesota



VIA AIR MAIL

Miss LAURA JANE Musser  
The Waldorf-Astoria; 17B  
New York City, New York

17B

THE  
WALDORF ASTORIA

JUN 19 PM 10 06

DOOR WEST



Monday P.M.

Dear Laura Jane,

Heck is out for awhile with the pen,  
so this pencil will have to do -

Was so happy to hear from you, as your  
letter of June 11<sup>th</sup> was received today.

eps, came in Benedito, Heck has been work-  
ing here as an Agent for Lutheran Brotherhood,  
Legal Reserve Life Insurance Co. (Mpls) for two  
weeks. I just arrived last Friday, and am  
sitting here in pants & Bra - red as any  
tomato from the Sun. Heck seems to like his  
new job, so everything is grand.

I was glad to hear from you, but sorry  
in the manner you wrote me, I mean  
where you said you thought I hadn't enjoyed  
the Marvellous trip to New York to see you,  
and see the sights and wonders in general, you  
planned for me, you no doubt misunderstood  
me, as I'm still talking about it and am afraid  
did more than you think. You see being  
used to a small town and not being on  
the go every second, makes one wear out so

very fast & that's just what I did - I'm  
so very sorry, but I thought sure you would  
understand. You see I really don't know  
of a person that appreciates any little thing  
done for them more than I & have been  
that long from a child on - Guess I always  
will be.

Your kindness & generosity will never,  
ever be forgotten, & will stay with me for  
as long as I live. I hope this misunderstanding  
has placed no strain on our life long friendship,  
which I desire to maintain.

Just as I am looking forward to your  
visit with us in Bemidji, we know we  
can have loads of fun. Our new car stands  
in here this week & we can go to so many  
grand spots. Let me hear from you, &  
Nels wants me to say "Hello" -

Thankfully  
Largie -

My Address

Mrs. H.E. Walcher  
Lakeside Hotel Room 33  
Bemidji, Minn.

Mrs Stanley Jgela  
Falls Ave. Box 14  
Oakville, @



Miss Laura Jane Messer  
310 Riverside Drive  
The Messer apt  
# 1014  
New York City New York

Falls over Box 14  
Oakville, Conn.  
December 23

Dear Laura Jane.

Stan and I want to  
thank you so very much for  
the lovely gift for the baby.  
Now we can't wait for the  
baby to come, so that we  
could dress it up in that  
beautiful outfit. It is a  
very lucky baby to be to  
get such a gift.

I am still waiting  
to go to the hospital. So  
I do hope it will be soon.

Betty called yesterday

and will be down for Christmas

we hope you will have  
a very nice holiday season  
and we will be looking  
forward to your visit to  
us.

Thank you for again  
for that very lovely gift.

As Ever

Ludy & Stan



Miss Laura Jane Messer  
Linden Hill  
Little Falls, Minnesota

14380 Crescent Drive  
Detroit 23, Michigan



August 12, 1946

Dear Laura Jane,

I received your letter some time ago and  
I'm terribly sorry not to have answered sooner.  
We've been quite busy this summer what with working,  
going swimming and doing numerous other things.  
We've been working at the Hargul Chemical  
Laboratories and I like it very much.

Thursday I left for the Upper Peninsula  
of Michigan for a trip with some friends of  
mine. We had a grand time "roughing it" in the  
north woods. I got back Monday and found  
your lovely card waiting for me and I just  
had to write to you right away.

We had a really grand summer but I'm  
anxious to get back to school in the fall.  
I'm quite excited about college and all. I haven't  
definitely decided what to major in but I'm



Thinking seriously of Pharmacy.

My father has bought a pasteurizing plant in Adrian, Michigan so we will be moving there as soon as we find a place to live. We're all quite pleased about the whole thing. Adrian is a very nice town of about 15,000 people. It's about 75 miles from Detroit in Southern Michigan. Although there is a college in Adrian I want to stay in Detroit and go to Wayne University as its standards are very high.

Yes I read about Philippa playing with the Philharmonic and I also heard her play "Manhattan Nocturne" over We the People. She really is terribly talented and I'm glad it's being recognized. Playing with the Philharmonic is really an honor for a 14 year old girl — especially if she is part negro. I think Philippa is the grandest person I've ever known and I know she'll be a great composer and pianist some day, probably

the greatest.

When I read of the way Mr. Fisher acted toward you I was perfectly stunned! He seemed like such a nice person. He probably didn't know ~~for~~ what he was saying but I don't blame you in the least for being hurt.

I was glad to hear that Dolores Owen visited you for a while, she is so charming and has a wonderful personality.

Last week I got an album of Rachmaninoff Concerto No. 2 played by Rachmaninoff, its perfectly ~~beats~~ beautiful. I want to thank you again for the phonograph, I've gotten so much enjoyment from it.

I shall never forget that wonderful trip to New York last spring and will never be able to thank you enough. We really had a wonderful time didn't we. Incidentally, "Deep are the Roots" played for two weeks in Detroit a short time ago and I saw it

again. It's really a wonderful play and I enjoyed it ~~so~~ all over again.

Jaura Jane, I don't believe there is anything else to write about so I'll close. Please write soon, because I enjoy getting your very interesting letters so much.

Love,  
Bernadine

James M. Taylor  
The Choate School  
Wallingford, Conn.



Miss Laura Jane Musser  
310 Riverside Drive  
Apartment 1014  
New York  
New York

The Choate School  
Wallingford, Conn.  
November 24, 1946

Dear Fotsie:

Lynn + I so enjoyed hearing from you, though we were terribly sorry to hear of your mother's trouble with her leg. We have since had a lovely letter from her telling us of it. She is such an unusually wonderful person that it seems awful that she should have any such trial. I'm writing her in a day or two.

Your apartment sounds great fun. That's the way to live in New York, I think! It would be nice if you could get one for yourself after January.

I'm terribly sorry to report that the chances are against our being here on Thanksgiving. I do hope we can get together another time. I'm anxious to show you around Choate. I don't believe I ever have, have I? I'll give you a real Cooke's Tour when you come.

Do I understand you're pulling down a Master's in Composition, this spring? That's great stuff! Of course, you ought to make yourself compose for publication.

Lynn joins me in much love.

Jim



260 Riverside Drive  
New York. N.Y.  
Jan. 8. '46

Dear Laura Jones,

I am ashamed that two  
whole weeks have passed by  
before I have been able to  
get to my desk to write you  
a note of thanks for that  
grand book of plays.

The vacation has just flown  
by and I seem to have been  
rushing madly all the time -  
and as a result - my mail  
is only just being attended  
to.

You were a sweet child to think  
of us - and you could not have  
found a gift that we all enjoy  
more.

I hope you had a lovely time

with your family in Little Falls  
and that 1946 is going to be  
supremely happy for all of you.

We want you to come up  
for dinner one evening. But  
just for the next week or two  
we are rather bewildered with  
business at the school. and a  
series of Faculty and Alumni  
meetings all relating to the  
complete reorganization of the  
institution by the new President.  
That it is all about no-one  
knows but alas! several of  
our evenings have to be  
given up to take part in it.

Much love to you from us all  
and we hope to see you soon.

Affectionately  
Latterman Newstead.

Mrs A. Hewstead  
260 Riverside Dr.  
N. Y. C. 25-



Miss Laura Jane Musser  
Waldorf Astoria Hotel  
Park Avenue & 50<sup>th</sup> St  
New York



178/3



Miss Laura Jane Musser  
Waldorf Astoria  
New York City -  
N. Y.

Mrs D. V. Jackson  
513 West Third  
Muscatine Iowa.

FLOOR WEST

1946 JAN 27 PM 4 43

THE WALLACE ASTORIA

My dear.

Your Christmas card  
is still on my desk - It is  
the most attractive one I  
had and I loved that you  
thought of me -

I know you are

happy to be back in your work  
and I hope some day I  
am to have the pleasure of  
hearing you play - Doug and I  
still practice every night and  
while it is nothing grand, we love  
doing it just for our own pleasure.  
The past week we have had a  
couple of young artists sing for

us and a few of our friends - They  
live in New York and are studying  
very hard & sing beautifully -

Well, my dear, I just want you  
to know I am thinking of  
you and send loads of good  
wishes - Lovingly -  
Bertha C. Jackson.

Marguerite Hamamols  
1221 H Alexander St.  
Honolulu 33, H.



17B  
20

Miss Laura Jane Musser  
~~Linden Hill~~ c/o Haldor Astoria  
~~Little Falls~~ 50th Park Ave.  
~~Minnesota~~ New York City

Kindly  
forward.

att B 17



1221 A Alexander St  
Honolulu 33, T. H.  
Jan. 16, 1946.

Dear Laura,

Another new year has rolled along and greetings from friends make me recall the pleasant days we had spent at the International House.

Whenever lovely music comes my way, again Carnegie Hall shows itself. So I have often thought about you, what you are doing and where you are most of the time. As for me I'm still teaching, about two hours, 2 choruses work daily and 2 two classes in social studies and English.

The holiday season kept me busy with Xmas music - school program, Caroling and singing in the 'Messiah'.

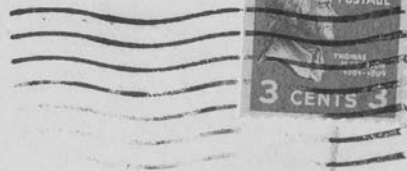
Now I've started renewing my hula lessons and ukulele.

Please write soon and let me know how you are.

Always  
Marguerite



Mrs Stan Jzela  
800 Chase Parkway  
Waterbury, Conn.



Miss Laura Jane Messer  
Waldorf Astoria #17B.  
50th. St. & Park ave  
New York City  
New York.

800 Chase Parkway  
Waterbury, Conn.  
January 1946

G  
G  
Dear Laura Jane

Stan and I want to  
thank you for the lovely Naptin  
and we shall think of you  
every time we use them  
We both have been so busy  
trying to find a place to  
live, that we could use  
all of our nice things. But  
we are having all kinds of  
trouble. Seem like there  
aren't any rents and a

Stan went back to his job Monday. So I am busy working on my needle point & have six pieces to make so I guess I will be busy for some time.

I miss you and all the rest at home. I had a letter from Pauline she said she was fine but it was very cold.

Thank you again  
and we hope to see you  
As Ever  
Brady

very few homes for sale<sup>2</sup>  
We can live here as long as we want to, but we want a place of our own as soon as possible. So we hope we will find a place very soon. When we do find a place you will have to come up for a long visit.

How is school?  
Are you glad to be back?  
Don't work too hard and have fun.



Miss Laura Jane Messer  
310 Riverside Drive  
W-103 St.  
New York  
N. Y.

Mr. S. G. Gery  
Little Falls  
N. Y.

Dear Laura Jane.

Pauline was here last night so got your address. Been wanting to write to you sooner and tell you we didn't get our little boy we had ordered but a darling little baby girl instead. The children sure think she is just grand and we all love her in spite of it all. She been a real good baby so far and looks just Jean and Patty did when they were babies. I'm just fine too.

and doing my own work  
so am kept rather busy.

Hope you are enjoying  
the best of health too.  
I just know how busy  
you are all the time.

I have to give Mary  
Beth her bath now. Wish  
you could see how tiny  
she really is.

Write when you find  
time Laura - We also have  
five puppies again. Cute.

With much love to you  
From us all  
Marie.

Mrs. R. J. Fitchell  
4024 1st St. S.W.  
Washington, 20,



1790  
Miss Laura Jane Musser  
% Waldorf Astoria Hotel  
New York City,  
New York.



April 5, 1946

Dearest Lottie,

I hope that you hadn't given up hearing from me all together. We have been on the move ever since the first of Jan. - thus I haven't hardly written to anyone.

Ralph was eligible for discharge on Dec 26 but wasn't discharged until Jan 11 at Maxwell Field, Montgomery, Ala. Then we went home and looked around a bit for a place for Ralph to set up a dental office. - but no equipment was available nor any office space. We had heard about an opening here in Washington - working with another dentist - so we came up here the later part of Feb. Ralph got the job and so we bought a 5-room house & then went home to get our

you can come down to see us.  
I will meet you if you will  
let me when & where to meet  
you. If possible come down on  
a Friday and stay through Sunday.

Well Lotsie, it is now 7:45  
and I am still waiting for R.  
to come home for dinner and  
so you see how busy he is.  
In any case I must close  
and get this in the mail when  
I go after my hubby. I'll be  
looking for a letter from you soon.  
Just in case you decide at the  
last minute to come you can  
call me at Trinidad 8170.

With love always

Mabel

Our address.

4024 1st St. S.W.

Washington 20, D.C.

things there organized and returned  
here on March 18 & moved in. So  
here we are - more or less settled.

Now, what have you been  
doing & what are you doing in  
New York? Please write me  
all about it real soon.

On our way to Washington  
the first time we stopped by  
to see Leonore Wier & her  
husband & 2 children. Lee had  
had the flu but they all looked  
real good.

Lotsie, I want you to come  
down here & spend a week-end  
with us real soon - this month.  
You know, New York is <sup>not</sup> too far  
from here but I know we won't  
get up there for awhile as R  
works all day every Sat. So  
Please let me know when

Mrs H. E. Walcher  
To Mrs Chas. Sprandel  
Little Falls, Minn.



Miss Laura Jane Musser  
The Waldorf Astoria # 17 B  
New York City, N. Y.



I have missed your grand letters  
as they are always so interesting -  
Please save a few seconds for me to  
drop a note.

When do you plan on being in  
Chicago? you must tell me all  
about it - Will you come on to S.F.  
from there?

Maybe this summer we can get  
some spots in the believe you me  
I'll need it - The lbs. are creeping  
on.

Think of you so many times  
a day as my love to you  
(over) always  
Sargie.

3-11-46

Dear Laura Jane,

Just a note to let you know  
I'm back in good old Little Falls  
and sure wish you were here too.

There isn't a thing going on, but  
the same of the girls since in Allendale,  
have been up to see Marjorie Cook and  
how I love her baby. She is so  
sweet and fat. We will have to do  
some calling when you get home.

Met your Ma on a tea the  
other day and she looked so very  
nice. of course she always does.

If I could afford it, I  
would have been in N. Y. to  
visit you, but being law as  
usual will have to stay put!

My address at present:

Mrs H. E. Waller  
To Mrs Chas. Sprengel  
Little Falls, Minn.

American Greetings

© U.S.A.

50 WN2-B

FROM M.E. Walker - 963

HOTEL WISCONSIN

Milwaukee 3, Wisconsin



Miss Laura Jane Musser  
The Waldorf Astoria # 17 B  
New York City, N. Y.



# HOTEL WISCONSIN

OWNED AND OPERATED BY THE MILWAUKEE HOTEL WISCONSIN CO.

MILWAUKEE 3, WISCONSIN

Sunday P.M.

Dear Laura Jane,

I'm sure you will forgive me for not dropping you a line before this, but believe me I have been so darn busy and it seems the days just aren't long enough.

How I think of you, and would give anything in the world to be there with you - just to have a nice long talk and maybe a cup of tea. It would do me wonders of good, but guess it's just a dream. I do want to see you when you come to Chicago and please don't forget - would love to attend Marion's Concert too.

I have a room here at the Hotel and you





450 ROOMS

# HOTEL WISCONSIN

OWNED AND OPERATED BY THE MILWAUKEE HOTEL WISCONSIN CO.

MILWAUKEE 3, WISCONSIN

Know how it is living in a Hotel - you  
just don't know what to do with your self.  
I'm in bed every night at 8<sup>th</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave had so  
much sleep & could scream.

I want to thank you so very much for  
the grand Christmas gift we also hope  
mine reached you in time - I sent all of  
mine out from the store we know some of  
them were late - That's what happens when  
you haven't time to take care of things your  
self.

If I thought I could get a good job  
in New York I might pack my bag &  
come no surprise you - Wouldn't that be  
something? Our Angel from the store & by  
the way my boss Miss Voss is leaving for  
New York today - She will be at the St. Regis  
for 2 wks. A grand person. I just love her.



450 ROOMS

# HOTEL WISCONSIN

OWNED AND OPERATED BY THE MILWAUKEE HOTEL WISCONSIN CO.

MILWAUKEE 3, WISCONSIN

I hope you will drop me a note soon  
as I promise to do better - Now that I'm  
settled there is no excuse -

Take Care of yourself as I send  
my love to my best friend

Sargis -

Hotel Wisconsin  
Room 963

*Via Air Mail*

*1713*  
*14*



Miss Laura Jane Musser  
The Waldorf Astoria - 17 B -  
New York City, N. Y.

Wm H. E. Walther  
To Mrs Chas. Sprandel  
Little Falls, Minn.

Monday 19-46

Dear Laura Jane,

Your letter arrived yesterday  
nd how happy I was to get  
it nd so thrilled at the thought  
of maybe seeing you. I have  
so many things I want to talk  
to you about nd wish I wouldn't  
have to wait untill May.

I havin't been feeling so "chippy"  
so went to see the Dr. today, but  
have to go back tomorrow. Guess  
I have tried to do too much after  
my operation. Maybe a trip nd  
rest will do me wondrous good.  
I have so many things on my mind.

You must be having a grand  
time. I'm so glad for you, nd it  
all helps to pass the time. I love

Around the 15<sup>th</sup> of April I will have to go to Milwaukee on some business. No thought maybe that would be the last time to Cant. My trip out to see you. What do you think? You tell me, so I can start make plans and get my things ready. Also if suits me things will be O.K. to bring. You'd really think I had never been anyplace before because I'm so excited.

You should see how big and fat the wolf is - also the fox. You will have to see them when you are home this summer. I like the fox, but not too fond of the wolf!

Are you getting many new spring things? The hats are so terrible I don't know what to do. Never could wear hats well no this year.

Dashing here and there - guess I can keep up with anyone Ha Ha.

We have had two perfect warm days and how nice it is to get out and walk and get the sunshine. I hope it stays this way for awhile.

I called Irene yesterday and gave her your "Lellow". Will see Mary Jane tomorrow. Of course I haven't said a word to them about coming to see you, so will keep it a secret. You know what people don't know doesn't hurt them. Anyways that's what I always say --- Right??

I really don't have a bit of news to tell you, so maybe the next time I write there will be something new.

I'm not sure, but I think



its worse than ever. My hair  
is short now, so it doesn't help  
Matters a bit.

Now I know your worn out,  
so will bring this to a close,  
but hope to hear from you  
soon & take good care of  
yourself:

My love to you

Always

Fergie.

Mrs H. E. Walther  
To Mrs Chas. Sprandel  
Little Falls, Minn.



*Via Air Mail*

17B  
Miss Laura Jane Musser  
The Waldorf Astoria # 17 B  
New York City, N. Y.



Sunday  
P.M.

My Dear Laura Jane,

Your Mother calls me  
last week & again this noon  
& she has such a nice view  
I plan on seeing her soon.

She said she had talked  
to you & that you wanted  
to know when I was coming.  
I want to come & see you &  
I know we would have  
such a wonderful time to-  
gether, but as I told you be-  
fore I cannot afford to come  
now, as Hub just home from  
service is just getting his start.  
So you write & said you

but I wanted to be honest  
with you, because I'd love to  
see you & it would be so  
grand to be, in New York for  
awhile, but if you want to  
as you said in your letter  
take care of my railroad expenses  
I'll more than make it up to  
you in every way.

You answer right away &  
we'll make our plans.

They love to you always  
& Dick sends his best

Large -

would pay all my railroad  
expenses & I feel that it would  
be much to much for you to  
do. Now you must tell me  
what you want me to do.  
Your Mom said you wanted  
me around the 15<sup>th</sup> of April,  
but I thought you said May  
yet

Dick has tried to find a  
house or apt. for us, but  
they just can't be found.  
He wants to find something  
so this summer you can spend  
some time with us. He is  
here today & says "Hello" to  
you & that he thinks of you  
so often.

This is just a "rush note"



Miss Laura Jane Musser  
Room 17 - B  
Waldorf Astoria Hotel  
New York  
N. Y.

*Mrs. T. B. Brandon*

H. S. Hotel Thayer  
West Point, N. Y.

THE  
WALDO ASTORIA

1946 FEB 27 AM 7 52

17TH FLOOR WEST

Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>

U. S. Hotel Thayer

West Point, New York

Dear Miss Musser:

Please accept my sincere appreciation of your kind efforts in making my few days visit in New York so pleasant.

I was both comfortable and happy at the Waldorf and the Dorset and I know that it was because of you.

This weekend at West Point was wonderful — being my first one! Then, too, I hadn't seen

my son, Lou, since  
he entered last July.

I hope to meet you  
again sometime when  
I return to New York  
in April or May.

With best wishes  
Sincerely

Carolyn E. Brandon



Miss Laura Lane Musser

Hotel Waldorf - Astoria

Room 17B Park - Avenue

New York City



STEPHANIE RUPP  
370 CENTRAL PARK WEST  
NEW YORK CITY 25

THE  
WALDORF ASTORIA  
1946 JAN 21 PM 6 13  
17TH FLOOR WEST



STEPHANIE RUPP  
370 CENTRAL PARK WEST  
NEW YORK CITY 25

Jan. 20<sup>th</sup> 46.

Dear Laura Jane!

I wanted to tell you how much I enjoyed the Play and to thank you again for having invited me and my pupil.

I tried to phone you to-day several times but the Hotel gave no answer. I do hope to see you soon and will call you sometimes next week.

The best to you and  
love from  
Yours, Stefie

17-B  
/ 7



GRAND CENTRAL  
STATION

Miss Laura Messer  
The Waldorf Astoria  
Park Avenue and 50th St.  
New York City

VASSAR CLUB -:- 34 EAST 50TH STREET, NEW YORK 22, N. Y. -:- PL. 3-4800

17TH FLOOR WEST

39 AM 8 02

THE ASTORIA

My dear Miss Messer:  
 When we first  
 met a bit ago, how could I  
 realize that someday  
 you would save my life?  
 Not so much of an idle  
 thought as you may think.  
 It was quite necessary  
 that I see my throat  
 specialist immediately. I  
 had business of finishing on  
 a park bench; in fact  
 I was decidedly worse.  
 I want you to realize how  
 much your consideration,  
 interest and ability to  
 believe the good con-  
 tributed by my mental  
 and physical comfort  
 and when I say wholeheartedly

thank you sincerely, most  
emphatically. I mean it!  
Cordially  
Elisha C. L. Vassar

VIA AIR MAIL



BUY U.S. SAVINGS  
BONDS & MAIL  
ASK YOUR POSTMASTER

Mrs. Jane Messer  
The Waldorf Astoria Hotel  
50 East Park Avenue  
New York City, N.Y.

1946

E.B. Yarn  
803 1/2 Venice Blvd  
L.A. 15, Calif.

THE  
WALDORF ASTORIA

1946 JAN 13 PM 8 18

17TH FLOOR WEST

January 9, 1946

Dearest Laura,

Here it is, the New Year and me-  
way behind in wishing you all good  
prosperity and happiness for the  
New Year.

I received your card, your much-  
to-be-enjoyed book (I haven't started it  
yet) and also \$5 for Bruce. Laura,  
dearest, thanks ever so much for  
a brighter Christmas: I thought of  
you all during the holidays and  
especially your invitation to join  
you. I worked all day Christmas, as  
did the whole office force, and  
spent part of the time with Bruce.  
With the money you sent and  
adding couple dollars more I  
bought Bruce a tailor lot - a  
baby's push cart, so to speak. As  
soon as I can, I'll send you a  
snap of him sittin' in it.

My, but you certainly spent  
a hectic time a-travelling, Laura,  
but it all sounds exciting and



thrilling.

Did you receive my gift addressed to Minnie? They were a pair of Mexican dolls. I just hoped you had received them before you left for N.Y. By the way, how is your collection progressing, Laura?

You're very smart to be concerned with my problem, dear, but things are working out as well as can be expected under the circumstances. I had in mind to settle back East with Bruce because of better cultural environment, but I must wait a little while.

Shouldn't it be grand to be back East where all of us could be together.

I've heard from my former roommate who is on leave - T. H. She is still doing social service work and thinks often of the States.

Do you remember Dr. Colge whom I introduced to you? He

is still in N. Y. and at one time was promised passage-way to return to Belgium. Something or other turned up and the Embassy cancelled his visa. He is so disappointed. His wife was robbed, by his best friend, of her farm and household goods, isn't that appalling!

There is a strike in progress of telephone workers and seems to hold us in suspense. The union is striking for a \$12 raise but the company is willing to grant \$5 only. I know one thing, all of us could use a raise. The labor situation seems tense throughout the nation -

Bruce is just thriving, Laura, and I certainly wish you could see him. He's seven months old now, but can't talk, walk, or crawl, the little lazy rascal! But it won't be long. I'm hoping the Tailor Tot will help him to stand up right by himself.

Did you spend a glamorous  
N.Y. ? I was a little ill - slight  
cold, but worked all night N.Y.'s  
Eve until 3 A.M.

How is everyone at  
home ? Did you have a pleasant  
Christmas at home ? With all  
the Euro weather you've been  
having in N.Y. and back  
East, I'm glad I'm here, in one  
way.

I'd love hearing from you  
about your things - the little  
chit chats and so on.

My love,  
Father

Terry Ann Doroff  
A #3, Box 114  
Little Falls, Minn.



Miss Laura Jane Musser

Waldorf Astoria Hotel

50<sup>th</sup> and Park Ave.

New York City,

New York

170  

---

3



Dear Aunt Lottie,

Thank you

so much for the lovely  
dress and card. I had  
a very nice time

but, had the full right  
after xmas. I thank  
you again for the dress.

Much love  
~~from~~ Geraldine

Dear Laura Jane,  
Jerry wrote you  
a few lines but I don't  
know whether you will  
be able to read it. I  
want to Thank you very  
much for the lovely  
dress and cards. I  
couldn't write sooner as

I didn't have your  
address. Wishing you  
luck in your music.

Much love

Rosemary



Miss Laura Jane Musser  
The Waldorf Hotel

New York  
N.Y.

Room 17 B.



m. Belsley 29-62, 1680t

WEST

MAY 5 22

January 6, 1946

Dear Anna Jane:

A few days ago  
I asked you if you would  
take care of the topic on  
February 10th at the  
Christian Endeavor Society  
"The White Rose as Seen

by Arthur Ross."

I trust the subject  
and the date will be  
agreeable to you and if  
I can help you in any  
way toward the plan-  
ning of a good meeting,  
just let me know.

Sincerely,

Margaret Belsky,  
President.

~~17B~~



Miss Laura Jane MUSSER

Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

Park Ave and 50<sup>th</sup>.

N. Y. C.

ARTHUR NEWSTEAD  
260 RIVERSIDE DRIVE  
NEW YORK CITY

ARTHUR NEWSTEAD  
260 RIVERSIDE DRIVE  
NEW YORK CITY

Tuesday

Dear Laura Jane:

It has been very much on my mind that when you brought back the Bach volume on that cold afternoon I did not see that you came in to warm yourself up before going out again in the cold. The fact was I had two people to see in one room and another student waiting for me in another room, and I was somewhat bewildered and only realized how cold you must have been a moment or so after you had left, when it was too late to call you back.

Please forgive my thoughtless negligence. I quite understand how you want to get ahead with your composition, and that must just now come first, but I hope to see you back again - with some more Bach - before very long.

With our best love to you

always yours sincerely

Arthur Newstead

Mrs. John Rose

Little Falls, Minn.



JAN 11 1946

Miss Laura Jane Musser

Waldorf Hotel

50th St. + Park Av.

New York City

Hold

Mary Louise Rose arrived

December 27, 1945

Weight: 6 lbs. 13 oz.

Length:  $18\frac{1}{2}$  in.





Dear Laura Jane,

My little girl, Mary, is a  
doll and I'm so happy with  
her.

I surely enjoyed my visit  
with you at my house and hope  
to hear from you some time.

Love, Irene

Mrs Huxley

201-1st N.E.

Little Falls Minn.



Miss Laura Jane Musser

Rm. 1732

50th St & Park Ave

New York City N.Y.

Holden Astoria

1732/m

**M**ay the  
beautiful  
spirit of Easter  
bring you the  
gift of a  
happy heart

My dear Laura Jane  
I was so delighted  
to receive your lovely  
Hankie & the dear little  
message. it is so nice for  
me to be remembered by  
younger people. How very  
much I appreciate it  
Hope you have happy Easter  
I heard your friend Marion  
Anderson at the Hyde Park  
dedication such sweet songs  
With love. Mrs. Hinkley

171B-460515-100M

**LUTHERAN BROTHERHOOD**

*Legal Reserve Life Insurance*

608 Second Avenue South

MINNEAPOLIS 2, MINNESOTA



Miss LAURA Jane Mussek  
310- Riverside Drive, #1014  
New York City, New York -

**H. E. WALTHER**

LOCAL AGENT

P. O. BOX NO. 362

BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

# LUTHERAN BROTHERHOOD

Legal Reserve Life Insurance for Lutherans

HOME OFFICE - 608 Second Avenue, South; MINNEAPOLIS 2, MINNESOTA

H. E. WALTHER - Local Agent

Bemidji and Beltrami County

P. O. Box 362; Telephone 460

BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

12/3/46 -  
My DEAR LAURA - Jane -

First, In behalf of Sarge & Myself,  
I certainly hope you had a Very Merry X-MAS, AND THAT  
1947 WILL be the best year Ever -

Certainly want to thank you  
heaps for the MARVELOUS X-MAS Present, you sent us (  
Although the first Shipment came DAMAGED, A Duplicate  
Shipment was Received in Perfect Condition), which  
Represents your generosity AND Good-Will, beyond words.  
Again, I wish to thank you for the MARVELOUS  
New York Trip for Sarge LAST April, IT WILL  
Positively REMAIN AS one of the greatest Actions  
of Sincere Friendship I have ever seen.

Sarge & I left for Little Falls,

# LUTHERAN BROTHERHOOD

Legal Reserve Life Insurance for Lutherans

HOME OFFICE - 608 Second Avenue, South; MINNEAPOLIS 2, MINNESOTA

H. E. WALTHER - Local Agent

Bemidji and Beltrami County

P. O. Box 362; Telephone 460

BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

2/  
The 24<sup>th</sup>, and had Christmas Eve a Christmas Day with Sarge's folks - I came back the 26<sup>th</sup>, and Sarge returned yesterday. As she was able to visit ALL her friends while home, she missed seeing you very much - However, when you come in JANUARY, no doubt you will be able to spare some time for us - What say?

Here's hoping the Holidays have been a bit of thrill, as well as, Relaxation, Please do drop us a line, as we appreciate hearing from you, as well as, seeing you -

Very Sincerely,

H. E. Walther



CHARTERED BY THE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

**INTERNATIONAL WORKERS ORDER**

80 FIFTH AVENUE



NEW YORK 11, N. Y. • AL 4-7733

February 19, 1946

Dear Friend;

Recently you received from us a copy of our Negro History Week Bulletin. Please accept our appreciation for your interest in the struggle for the rights of the Negro people.

May we take the liberty to bring to your attention the fact that our Order is at present engaged in a campaign to help secure the passage of the Wagner-Murray-Dingell Bills, S.1606-HR.4730 known as the National Health Act.

This bill aims to make it possible for millions of Americans to enjoy the opportunity of maintaining good health. S.1606 provides for compulsory health insurance for every family in America.

The Bill was endorsed by the C.I.O., A.F.ofL, social and religious groups and many other organizations. To demonstrate wide public support for S.1606, the IWO is endeavoring to obtain at least 1,000,000 signatures to be presented to the Senate Committee on Labor and Education which is now considering the measure.

May we expect your cooperation in this worthy effort? You can do so by signing the enclosed petition and have others sign it. If you want more petitions we shall be glad to send any amount you ask for.

With appreciation for your cooperation.

Fraternally yours,  
*Sam M. Milgrom*  
Sam Milgrom,  
General Director of  
Organization.

sm:rl  
encl.  
uopwa 1

P.S. Please return the signed petition to this office.

SM



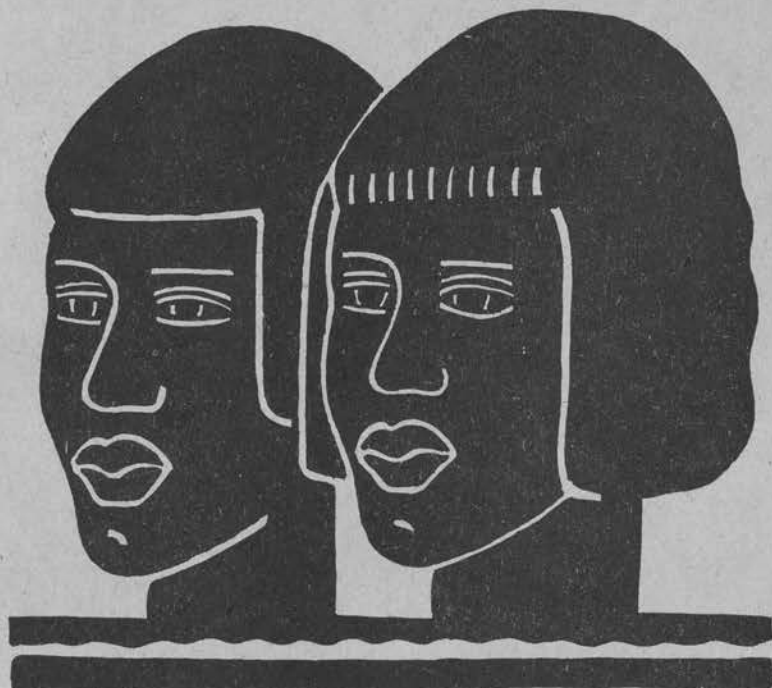
# NEGRO HISTORY

Feb. 10 - 17

## WEEK

1946

BULLETIN



### A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT TRUMAN

The following message was received from the President in response to a telegram from the International Workers Order requesting a statement on Negro History Week.

January 18, 1946

I am glad to hear that Negro History Week will again be celebrated. The time of year which includes the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass, two great champions of human freedom, is especially appropriate.

The achievements of the Negro have been remarkable. It is very essential that we have a knowledge of the past of a people in order to understand their aims and aspirations for the future. I congratulate all those who seek to extend this knowledge. Their efforts are most praiseworthy.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Very sincerely yours,  
(signed) HARRY S. TRUMAN.

# NEGRO HISTORY WEEK BULLETIN



## ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

### GENERAL

Organize or participate in Negro History Week activities through committees in your community. Contact a Negro church or other community organization for a joint gathering.

Suggest to your local public library, book stores, union and school to exhibit Negro books, pictures and other appropriate display materials.

In all Negro History Week Exhibits depict and emphasize health needs of the Negro people, showing how the Wagner-Murray-Dingell National Health Act (S. 1606—H.R. 4730) will help solve the problems.

Write a letter to your local newspaper calling attention to the celebration of Negro History Week and stressing the need to pass the permanent FEPC Bill, the Anti-Poll Tax Bill, H.R. 7; and to impeach Senator Bilbo.

Nationality group leaders and writers should prepare special articles for their press.

### LODGES AND CLUBS

Devote one of your February meetings to a discussion of the significance of Negro History Week in terms of the present-day struggle for equality and the rights of the Negro people. (Adopt a resolution for a permanent FEPC and abolition of the Poll Tax. Send this resolution to your Congressman.)

If arrangements have already been made for a Social Security and Health meeting, invite a Negro or white physician, labor or community leader to speak on the health needs of the Negro people.

Recruit Negro members into the Order; help build IWO Centers in Negro Communities.

Arrange cultural or entertainment features on your February meeting programs or other events featuring Negro music, songs and dances along with other nationality group talent to express inter-racial unity.

Try to get your City Council to adopt a resolution officially declaring February 10-17, 1946 as Negro History Week and calling for city-wide celebration.

# NATIONAL GROUPS and THE NEGRO



### KOSCIUSZKO—ONE OF THE FIRST

NEGRO History Week is of special significance to Americans of Polish descent. Negro history should not only teach us the facts of the rich contributions of the Negro people in the fight for freedom, progress and the advancement of our nation, but from it we will learn the elementary truth that it is in our own interest that all restrictions, discrimination against and segregation of the Negro people be eliminated.

As long as such practices are permitted to exist, they constitute a threat to all of us.

In this same week we will also celebrate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Thaddeus Kosciuszko, who was one of the first to raise his voice on behalf of the Negro people. Polish-Americans will do well to follow the example of this first Polish-American, who not only demanded rights for the Negroes but who gave all of his possessions for the benefit of the Negro people. With Kosciuszko's money the first public school for Negro children was established in Newark, N. J., in the year of 1826.

We will do well if we, today, will fight for the full rights of the Negro people, for unity of Negro and white, for progress, security and democracy.

—BOLESŁAW GEBERT,  
President, IWO Polonia Society.

### NEGROES AND JEWS

“... WHAT specific activities can the IWO and the progressive movement as a whole undertake to combat the fascist forces? The keystone ... is the question of the unity of all progressive forces against the fascist forces, and of the nationality groups. I would like to touch on one aspect of that unity.

“Bilbo, whom we have singled out as a symbol, and who is a symbol of fascism in Congress, can teach us a lesson. In his attacks Bilbo concentrates on two groups, on the Jews and the Negroes. He attacks other groups, the Italians, the Poles, etc., but he concentrates on these two. I think we must concentrate a little more on these two, and particularly on unified action between these two groups.

“The Jews and the Negroes are drawn together by very common problems in the United States today. But I fail to see sufficient common action between the Jewish people and the Negro people in this country.

\* \* \*

“But more than that, in all common actions on the question of fighting fascism and discrimination, and on the various other aspects of fascist activity, it seems to me there should be much closer cooperation than there is today between the Jewish people and the Negro people.”

Excerpts from an address by  
ALBERT E. KAHN, President,  
IWO Jewish Peoples Fraternal  
Order.

### LIBERTY-LOVING HUMANITY

THE unity of many minorities, bound by a deep, common loyalty to American ideals—that is the U.S.A. It is the peculiar genius of American life that, historically, racial, creedal and foreign-born minorities have always fused their faiths, their cultures, their talents and their skills for the advancement and enrichment of this beloved land of ours.

The struggle of America, from its very beginnings, has been of a pattern with the struggles of minority groups. Negro, Slav, Latin, Jew and Gentile—in war and in peace—add up to the sum total of a strong, free America which has been a model and an inspiration to the world. In the spirit of this American tradition, we Americans of Slavic descent salute “Negro History Week” in the hope that the common strivings of all the diverse elements which make up our nation may continue to strengthen the foundations of American democracy toward the end that the blessings of freedom may be multiplied for the enjoyment of liberty-loving humanity here and all over the world.

ZLATKO BALOKOVIC, President,  
United Committee of South-Slavic Americans.  
(Continued on page 11)



# FOR SUPPORT OF THE NEGRO'S LIBERATION STRUGGLE

## I. INTRODUCTION

### A. The Anti-Fascist War and the Negro's Most Recent Liberation Struggle.

#### 1. Military Front:

The Negro in America has participated in every war as a means toward liberating himself. Why does the Negro always fight for America? Although without illusions, he loves it as the only home he knows. In fighting for it, he hopes always to achieve greater personal freedom for his loved ones, himself and his people and to share more in the democracy America advertises to the world. He fought, too, to make it more difficult, if not impossible, for America's fascists to seize state power.

His most recent struggle for liberation was by contributing nearly 1,000,000 men and women to the Army, the Navy and the Air Corps of the United States and millions of workers to war industries. Negroes in World War II demanded, fought for and obtained the right to send 180,000 of their best sons into the Navy, the Marine Corps and the Coast Guard, where they manned Navy auxiliary ships as coxswains, gunners' mates, quartermasters, carpenters' mates, electricians mates and shipfitters; where, aboard the destroyer escort USS Mason and the submarine chaser PC 1264, they made up the entire enlisted personnel, having, also, a commissioned officer, Ensign Samuel Graveley, on the subchaser.

#### 2. Home Front:

Malcolm Ross, chairman of the Fair Employment Practices Committee, stated recently that one out of every 16 tanks, guns, shells and airplanes used by the United States in this war was made by a Negro. Thus, the Negro, continuing his centuries-long struggle for liberation during the anti-fascist war, formed 8 per cent of all gainfully employed workers in war factories during 1942 and 1945—the peak years of war employment.

The Negro on the home front gave his country Captains Hugh Mulzac, Adrian Richardson, John Godfrey and Clifton Lastic as commanders of Liberty ships carrying supplies and war materials to our troops and to our allies.

### B. Importance of the Negro's Struggle NOW for Liberation.

1. The war, perhaps, could have been won without the Negro, but it would have been won at much greater cost in time, money and lives. Complete non-participation of the Negro in the armed conflict would have been equivalent to withdrawing nearly 50 full divisions. A few isolated incidents can prove the value of the Negro's contribution to the victory.

The All-Negro Fighter Group, 332nd, shot down 25 enemy planes in one record-breaking week of April, 1945, over Vienna and Munich. The Negro 784th Tank Battalion spearheaded the Ruhr attack.

A field captain from Virginia, in answer to an Army questionnaire on the mixing of Negro platoons into white companies, said:

"This colored platoon of 35 men with prepared positions was counter-attacked by 90 Germans. The platoon commander has just been captured. They (the Negroes) killed

46 and took 35 prisoners without losing any ground or suffering any casualties."

A *United Press* dispatch on April 26, 1945, told how "a six-foot three-inch, 212-pound Negro, who was a waiter at the New Yorker Hotel for nine years, performed superhuman physical feats when his ship was hit by a Japanese suicide plane on April 16 off Okinawa." He was Steward's Mate Second Class Samuel C. Dixon, of Bayonne, N. J., whose story was given to UP by the sailor's superior, Ensign William C. Ward, Jr., of Silver City, N. M., assistant gunnery officer. Ward said:

"He carried a case of three-inch ammunition under each arm and they weighed about 150 pounds each. Sometimes he would have a case of ammunition in one arm and be carrying a wounded man in the other. He would place a man in a stretcher on one deck and alone carry the litter and patient down a ladder to the deck below."

The nature of that war led to the promotion of Colonel Benjamin O. Davis to brigadier general, the first in our history, and promotion of Captain Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., to colonel and to be commander of a United States Army post.

The anti-fascist nature of the war psychologically prepared America to receive Paul Robeson on Broadway as "Othello," Todd Duncan as "Tonio" in *I Pagliacci* at the New York City Center, and for the play *Deep Are the Roots* and the book *Strange Fruit*. It was the anti-fascist nature of the war that made possible Rudolph Dunbar's conducting of the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra in Berlin; the enactment of a "little FEPC" in New York; the signing of Jackie Robinson to play big league baseball; the election of Francis E. Rivers to the City Court of New York and the re-election of Ben Davis to New York's City Council.

The time has come to struggle for retention and multiplication of the Negro's wartime gains.

Returning servicemen and servicewomen believe sincerely that the inconsistency between America's anti-fascist slogans during the war and her treatment of the Negro people now must be abolished. They are ready to join our fight for Negro liberation, thus continuing the battle they believed they went into the armed forces to complete.

It is important to continue the struggle because the anti-fascist nature of the late war inevitably forces the United States to grant certain concessions to the Negro people—provided there be no letup in the pressure and provided our country is constantly reminded that the eyes of the oppressed peoples of the world are upon her.

### C. Why We Must Struggle NOW for Liberation of the Negro People.

We must struggle harder than ever NOW, and must convince the great masses of the American people to join the struggle, for the full citizenship rights of the Negro people, because

1. It is necessary.
2. It will strengthen America as a whole, white as well as Negro.
3. It is practical.

## II. BODY

### A. The struggle for Negro rights is necessary, because

1. Reaction, as represented by Big Business and imperialism through such of their mouthpieces as the *Chicago Tribune*, the Hearst press, the Scripps-Howard chain and the New York *Daily News*, is equally the enemy of the Negro and of the American people as a whole.

#### PROOF:

a. Representative John Rankin and Senator Theodore Bilbo of Mississippi, fascist-like enemies of the Negro, attack not only black Americans, but all white Americans who speak or act in defense of the Negroes. Rankin and Bilbo, moreover, and more importantly, oppose the Full Employment bill, the bill for a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee, the anti-poll tax bill, the Unemployment Compensation bill, the Wagner-Murray-Dingell Health and Social Security bills and all other progressive social security legislation, which, if enacted into law, would benefit all the American people by lifting their economic, social and political status. Bilbo, Rankin and other poll-tax Democrats, with the usual Republican reactionaries in the House and the Senate, are defended in the columns of the very same press and by the very same persons which periodically make a Roman holiday of "Negro crime waves" on the front page. Defense of the principles for which Rankin, Bilbo and their reactionary colleagues stand is, logically, an attack on everybody who opposes these principles as against the people's best interests.

Thus (to quote the 1945 *Negro History Week Bulletin*), "In fighting for his own interests, the Negro has fought for the interests of the nation as a whole; conversely, the worst enemies of the Negro, like the Civil War Confederate and Copperhead or the pro-fascist today, have been the worst enemies of the nation as a whole."

b. "Small nations, colonials and American minorities have followed the discussion of the trusteeship of the atom bomb because they see in it a new weapon of power politics that can doom them, for all time, to dependency and exploitation on the threat of annihilation. By the same token they are interested in the stature, the morality and statesmanship of the men fortuitously in the positions to wield the determining influence." ("Review of the Month" in a *Monthly Summary of Events and Trends in Race Relations*, Fisk University, November, 1945.)

The same men in our government and press who filibuster the FEPC and the anti-poll tax bills also yelp loudest for American atom bomb "secrecy" and the perpetuation of the colonial system, certainly both against all the people's interests.

c. The men in the government and the press who speak and write against the FEPC, the anti-poll tax and the anti-lynching bills also speak and write against the provisions of the Office of Price Administration and in favor of legislation to suppress strikes. Thus, again (to quote further from the *Bulletin*),

## A Discussion Outline

By EUGENE GORDON

"Just as labor in a white skin could not be free as long as labor in a black skin was enslaved, so no national minority can be safe from persecution as long as the largest minority suffers from discrimination."

### B. The struggle for Negro rights NOW will strengthen the whole progressive movement, because

1. The denial of democracy to and oppression of the Negro in the United States are closely linked with:

a. The denial of democracy to and oppression of the Jews;

1. Representative John E. Rankin, Negro baiter, rising in Congress in defense of a report by Dr. Harlan H. Homer, secretary of the Council on Dental Education of the American Dental Association, shook his fist at Representative Emanuel Celler and shouted that he was tired of "the gentleman from New York" raising the Jewish question in the House, instead of remembering that "white Gentiles of this country also have some rights."

b. Organized labor's, and especially the CIO's, program of Negro equality;

1. "The most unique development in race relations programs is the new role that labor is playing in that field. The efforts of the CIO to combat discrimination are well known. This year two of the most powerful of the individual CIO unions have become actively interested in attitude education: the UAW has initiated an inter-racial goodwill award to be made annually in commendation of effective work in race relations in the field of labor, and the Maritime Union has conducted a Negro History campaign." (Review of front-page news, *Monthly Summary of Events and Trends in Race Relations*, March, 1945.)

c. Inter-racial programs and activities of youth;

1. Progressive young Southern men and women, college students of South Carolina, invited fellow Negro college students to next year's Student Assembly. Marilyn Kaemmerle of the William and Mary College, editorially in the *Flat Hat*, college magazine, condemned race discrimination and indicated willingness to fight. Frank Sinatra's and Danny Kaye's activities in behalf of better Negro-white relations.

2. The struggle for the Negro's rights NOW will be a part of the people's struggle against American imperialism;

a. Taft, Hoover and Vandenberg, the triumvirate of Republican reactionaries who inspire anti-progressive political action in this country, are the chief opponents, also, of Negro rights. Taft especially has spoken in opposition to the FEPC. "Very important it is, too, in fighting against the Hoover-Vandenberg-Taft opposition, that the imperialist program of these people should be fully exposed. It is not enough merely to denounce the mas reactionaries. The American people must be taught that the reactionary opposition is against the whole plan of a democratic collaboration among the nations and is fighting for American imperialist domination." (William Z. Foster)

### C. The struggle for Negro rights NOW is practical, because

1. The most articulate sections of the Negro press support it:

a. "Our enemy seeks to divide us before the more strategic battles against the basic institutions of democracy begin. Negro and white on the bottom will stick together. They must. We will not be deceived. We who are Negroes will stand by the jobless of America, be they white or black. We who are Negroes will stand by all those Americans who fight for social security, for full employment, for higher wages as the cost of living daily mounts. We expect these white Americans whose today and tomorrow is in danger to stand by us, to help end the color bar, and to dam up the channels of race hatred." (Editorial, *Chicago Defender*, October 13, 1945.)

2. The most articulate section of the Southern progressive white press supports it.

3. The labor movement supports it.

## III. CONCLUSION

A. It is necessary to struggle in support of the Negro's liberation because resurgent fascism—apparent in many parts of the world and showing signs of boldness in the United States—can be definitely and everlastingly defeated only through the complete freedom of those whom the fascists would exploit as scapegoats.

It is necessary, so that all the participants in the struggle may know from experience the true meaning of democracy and unity.

b. "When peace comes, the United States' calling card at the peace conference will be democracy. We will be one of the Big Powers at the peace table because we will have defeated the Germans and their Nordic supremacy, because Americans, white and black, yellow and brown, have made America a powerful nation.

"Yet, what is the difference between 'Nordic supremacy' in Germany and 'white supremacy' in the South? In crumbling Germany we see the fate of 'Nordic supremacy'; southerners aboard the 'white supremacy' bandwagon are riding for a fall, simply because such an idea cannot live side by side with democracy...."

"Whether the mass of southerners really knows the South as it is today is questionable. The war has changed the whole economic and political picture. The relationship with minority races cannot rock along as it has in the past. It will flare up into something terrible unless southerners toss aside old prejudices and discriminations—fascistic ideas of 'white supremacy'—and guide it to a sane and just conclusion. The Negro is giving his life in battle and he wants and deserves

## STRIKE SITUATION

The present vast strike wave of industrial workers has great importance in the struggle for Negro liberation in the United States. It is most timely, now, to integrate the demands for equality in these strike activities in every possible manner. The Negro workers must not only be a part of the strike struggle, but every strike action and every strike battle won must be utilized for Negro and white unity, for advancement of Negro rights.

his just share in the democracy he is helping to defend." (Baton Rouge, La., Louisiana State University, *The Summer Reveille*, August 29, 1945.)

It is necessary, because only through struggle to liberate the Negro people within the country (and thereby identifying themselves with the interests of Indonesian patriots, Jewish Palestinians, black South Africans and poverty-stricken Puerto Ricans and Virgin Islanders) can the masses of American people compel their country to modify, if not abandon completely, its predatory designs on weaker peoples and adhere to the spirit of the United Nations Declaration.

It is necessary as a precondition to strengthening the whole progressive movement. It will unite the struggle of Jews and of other minorities with that of the Negroes, broadening it and giving it greater authority. It will find a natural ally in the CIO and other progressive trade union organizations and in organizations especially of young southern students.

B. It is practical because there is a demand for it throughout the United States, among both Negro and white.

C. The people's struggle to achieve a full democracy and the "Four Freedoms" is the overall struggle into which struggle for Negro rights fits as an essential part. The people as a whole must be made aware of the fact that their struggle will more quickly achieve success if they will all participate in the struggle of the Negro people. The people's part lies in their doing the following:

#### 1. Reconversion:

Exerting pressure to pass a permanent FEPC; cooperating with labor in labor's battle for the people's needs and striving for labor unity and for labor's organizing the unorganized; fighting for the full equality of Negroes in the trade union movement; exerting pressure for passage of full employment legislation and adequate unemployment compensation.

#### 2. Servicemen's Rights:

Exerting pressure to pass the Adam Clayton Powell bill to outlaw segregation and discrimination in the armed forces; to expand the GI Bill of Rights and Federal administration of benefits, with demands that the Veterans Administration be made more democratic and that demobilization of Negro troops be speeded up.

#### 3. Civil Rights:

Exerting pressure to pass the anti-poll tax and the anti-lynching bills; demanding arrest and prosecution of all leaders of the Ku Klux Klan, Black Legion and other anti-Negro and pro-fascist organizations; fighting for equality of opportunity in cultural fields and demanding that Bilbo be ousted from the Senate and that the people of the District of Columbia be granted the vote.

#### 4. Social Security—Health:

Working for speedy passage of the Wagner-Murray-Dingell National Health Act (S. 1606-H. R. 4730) and Social Security Bill (S. 1050-H. R. 3293). Exerting pressure to maintain price and rent controls, fighting for a Federally administered non-discriminating housing program; extending the facilities of education and child care.

D. Political Action: The development of conscious, organized political action of the Negro people as shown in the 1944 elections and subsequently, must be intensified by strengthening the alliance of the Negro people with labor and with all progressive groups. This alliance will provide the means through which the fight for Negro rights can be advanced.



# SALUTE TO NEGRO HISTORY WEEK



## LAUREL TO WOODSON FROM POET

Negro History Week, as established, and continuing now for many years, by Dr. Carter G. Woodson and the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, has done more than any other single organization or institution to acquaint Negro people with the courage of their historic struggles and the dignity of their background. Today, more than ever, the subject of Negro History Week is of vital importance to the peoples of America in their march toward full democracy for all.

LANGSTON HUGHES.

## WORKED HARD—FOUGHT VALIANTLY

Negro youth may learn from the study of Negro history that the race to which they belong has worked hard and fought valiantly from the days of slavery up to now to make this democracy first among the nations of the world. Without that Constitution, America would not be the world power it is today.

DR. CHARLOTTE HAWKINS BROWN,  
President Palmer Memorial Institute.

## STRUGGLE CANNOT STOP, SAYS POET

In my book "Long View" are to be found four poems for the Negro people: 1. Spirituals; 2. City of the Blues; 3. Marian Anderson on the Steps of the Lincoln Memorial; and 4. To the Poet as Yet Unborn. These poems represent four stages in the struggles, the last stage and the last poem as yet unattained. The struggle cannot stop until the full human fulfillment is attained. No Negro person in our country can be indifferent to this struggle; and every day he suffers the concrete reality of his lack of freedom. The Negro people need to know why they lack freedom and how they will eventually get it. Such knowledge can save them much waste and despair. In the cauldron of this changing world the great achievements are being prepared.

GENEVIEVE TAGGARD.

## OF THE GREATEST IMPORTANCE . . .

At this time during the rise of post-war reaction and imperialism it is of the greatest importance that the contribution of Negro people to America be observed. As in the past I shall again seek to pass a resolution of the City Council for official city-wide observance of Negro History Week.

BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, JR.,  
Councilman, N. Y. City.

## ELIMINATE RACIAL PREJUDICE

The history of the American Negro as well as the future of the American Negro can no longer be set aside as a thing apart from the history and the future of the world in general. For this reason, it is of vital importance that people in every walk of life who have interest at all in the struggle for equality and rights of minority groups should know about and support Negro History Week. It is only through this knowledge that we can ever hope to eliminate the flow of racial prejudice from the progressive thinking people of the world.

KATHERINE DUNHAM.

## CIVILIZATION AND SOCIAL PROGRESS

Nothing so builds up respect for a people as knowledge of what that people has contributed to civilization and social progress. The American people are grossly ignorant of the Negro American's contribution to the upbuilding of this great nation. Negro History Week can help to call attention to this contribution. I commend your organization for rallying its membership in support of this year's observance.

CHANNING H. TOBIAS.

## EPIC OF STRUGGLE

From Crispus Attucks to Dorie Miller, the history of the Negro people has been a great, moving epic of the struggle of the acceptance of the simple tenets of democracy. The winning of that struggle will guarantee forever the right of all peoples to live as free and honorable men in a truly free and democratic world.

HUGH DE LACY,  
Member of Congress.

## A WHITE PSYCHOSIS

The so-called Negro problem is no reflection upon the Negro people. It is an expression of political, social and mental adjustment to the changing conditions of democracy. It is a white psychosis deliberately fostered today by native fascist interests. It will not end until labor has destroyed fascism.

ROCKWELL KENT,  
General President, IWO.

## INTENSIFY STRUGGLE FOR EQUALITY

I greet the IWO on the occasion of its observance of Negro History Week. Now more than ever before its observance of democratic life for Negro people is vital and necessary to American democracy. The struggle for Negro and white equality must be intensified.

CONGRESSMAN VITO MARCANTONIO.

## MORE THAN A MILLION

More than a million Negro workers contributed their skills in war production. To provide Negroes with equal job opportunity in producing for peace is the duty of the nation which Americans of all creeds and races helped preserve.

MALCOLM ROSS,  
Chairman FEPC.

## THE FIGHTING SPIRIT

The celebration of Negro History Week has created an appreciable interest in America. It has improved the status of the Negro in general by bringing about a better understanding of his relationship in the American way of life. It has revealed his contribution to the industrial and economic, educational and political growth of the nation. It has served to correct the pseudo views commonly propagandized in the United States. It has buttressed the fighting spirit of the Negro masses in their struggle for the equalization of their economic, social, political and religious status in our system of democratic government. It has given both youth and adults the necessary pride in their heritage and stirred them to greater action in shouldering their responsibilities toward building a better world.

ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR.,  
Member of Congress.



"During Negro History Week we Americans are forcefully reminded of what we should be conscious of at all times,—that economic, political, and social discriminations against the Negroes of this country are a blot on our democracy. The first step to correct these injustices should be the establishment of a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee."

Sincerely,  
H. A. WALLACE,  
Secretary of Commerce

## INTENSIFY THE VITAL STRUGGLE

Negro History Week is a most significant annual event that points up the contributions of the Negro people to the progress and development of our nation. Further, it provides a cumulative basis for intensifying the vital struggle for full and equal citizenship of the Negro people.

FERDINAND SMITH,  
National Secretary, NMU.

"The facts are sufficient to emphasize the need for development of health services along the lines so courageously stated by the President and for the Wagner-Murray-Dingell Bill. Certainly, the establishment of more hospitals, the enlargement of the program for maternal and child welfare, and the development of a health insurance program of a compulsory nature, will do much to improve the health status of every citizen in the United States, and thereby, make our nation a much stronger one."

From a report by Dr. Paul B. Cornely,  
Professor of Public Health, Howard University.

## MUTUAL APPRECIATION

It is gratifying to note that your interracial labor fraternal organization is making adequate health and social security for all of the American people a definite part of its program.

Your interest in our program is appreciated.

Sincerely yours,  
Roscoe C. Brown,  
Chief, Office of Negro Health Work,  
Federal Security Agency  
United States Public Health Service  
National Negro Health Movement.

# CAMPAIGN FOR PEOPLE'S HEALTH

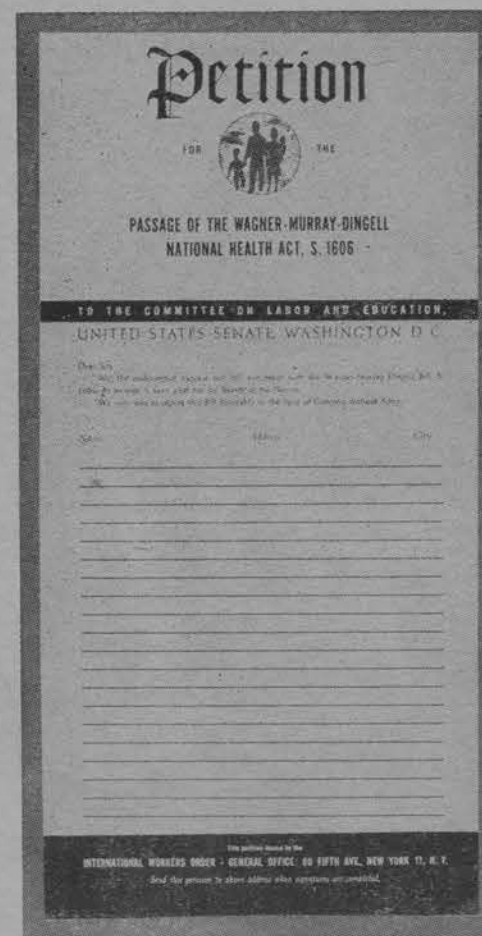
THE facts about the health needs of the Negro people revealed in the excerpts from the article by Dr. Cornely (see page 6) demonstrate the importance of the IWO campaign for the passage of the Wagner-Murray-Dingell National Health Act, S. 1606-H. R. 4730.

Our Order has launched a nationwide drive to collect the first million signatures on petitions to Congress for immediate passage of the Bill. Since the Negro people suffer most because of lack of adequate medical care, the mass campaign for S. 1606 has special significance and value for the Negro people.

Reverend Shelton Hale Bishop of the Saint Philip's Church, New York, second largest Episcopal Church in the country, in endorsing the petition campaign and signing the first petition circulated by Solidarity Lodge 691 in Harlem, declared:

"We have made great gains in the last twelve years for the workers of America—for the sick, the aged, and the unemployables of our society. We must not ever lose what we have gained. It is imperative that all who can work, all who need care and protection, shall have these things secured to them. This is only possible through Federal laws, guaranteeing to all alike the necessities of life. The Wagner-Murray-Dingell Bill, S. 1606, seeks to assure these, and the people of these United States must assure its passage."

Pledging the support of the National Negro Congress, Revels Cayton declared that a successful petition drive can insure passage of this vital bill and will prove to Congress that the people are determined to mobilize and press for a people's legislation.



Reproduction of IWO Petition to Congress for S. 1606.

# SOVIET DEMOCRACY

By PAUL ROBESON



Participating in the World Freedom Rally held under the auspices of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship at Madison Square Garden in New York on November 14, Paul Robeson, Chairman of the Council on African Affairs, made the following statement:

## AMERICA'S RESPONSIBILITY

And in the light of recent events, recent disclosures, and the question of present high policy, the greatest source of danger at this historic period to the emergence of a People's World founded upon the equalities, economic, racial, social, and political, could well be upon our own American continent.

At this hour, in China, in Java, in other places our government is helping the British, French and Chiang Kai-shek governments crush the peoples' struggles toward democracy, freedom and independence. The tragic plight of Europe's anguished Jewish people has still to be solved. And yet we talk of world peace and security. Reliance upon might, armaments, military bases and atomic bombs will not help toward that goal.

If the United States and the United Nations truly want peace and security, let them fulfill the hopes of common people everywhere—let them work together to accomplish on a worldwide scale precisely the kind of democratic association of free peoples which characterizes the Soviet Union today.

(Reprinted from the Council of African Affairs, Monthly Bulletin, Dec. 1945.)

As part of the Federal slum clearance program, begun in 1937, more than 40,000 homes out of 121,500 were contracted for Negro occupancy in urban district OWI reported in 1942.

## DANGER OF COLONIALISM

Recently a writer in the Soviet publication, "War and the Working Class," observed that "the system of colonial enslavement of hundreds of millions of people is an extremely dangerous obstacle in the path of social progress and a bulwark of reactionary tendencies all over the world. The removal of this barrier is an essential condition for the inclusion of vast countries, and the peoples inhabiting them, in the general channel of humanity's economic, political and cultural development."

There is no possible comparison to be made with the Soviet Union in its treatment of minorities. For they have no minorities in our sense of the word. There, all peoples of whatever color or culture enjoy complete equality. It is painfully obvious that this is not true in our United States—neither for the Negro, the Spanish-American, the Jewish-American people, the American of Asiatic descent, nor for millions of underprivileged of all colors.

As is exceedingly clear, we now live in one world. The struggle for freedom continues and we must fight wherever danger lurks.

In this new enlivening and fast-changing world, the Soviet Union I believe to be in the very forefront of the battle to obtain real (not imaginary) freedom for the many—not the few.



NEGRO AND WHITE collective farm workers of Abkhazia district, Georgian SSR. (SOVfoto Pix.)

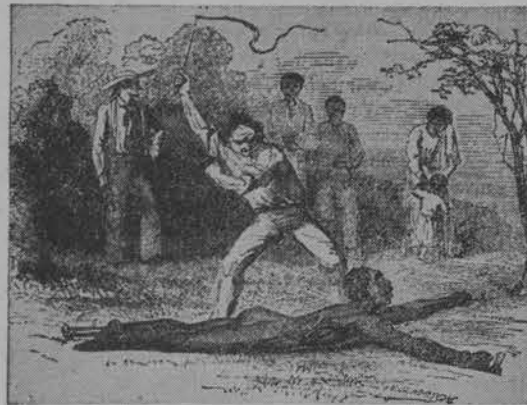
GIVE THE FULLEST SUPPORT TO THE STRIKING WORKERS SO THAT WE CAN MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE OUR LIVING STANDARDS

WRITE TO YOUR CONGRESSMAN TELLING HIM TO SUPPORT A PERMANENT FEPC AND TO VOTE FOR THE ANTI-POLL TAX BILL, HR. 7

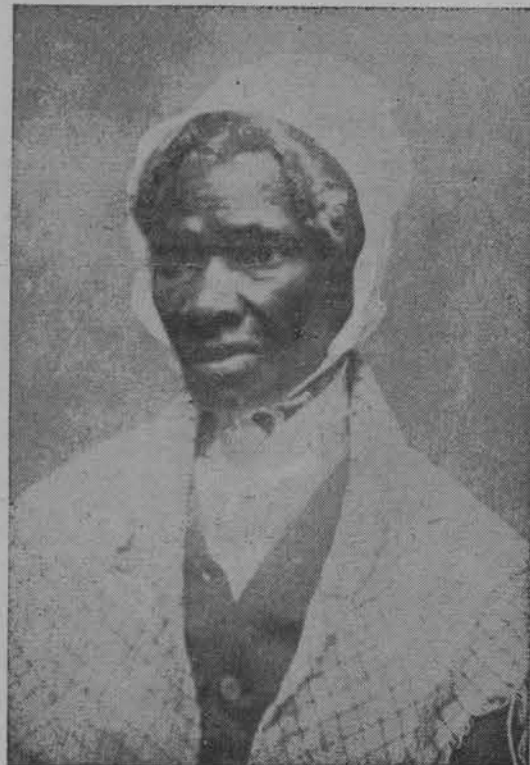


# NEGRO HISTORY

TOLD IN PICTURES



A POLL-TAX SENATOR told Carter G. Woodson it was a "crime" to publish this picture. The event was the crime, we say.



SOJOURNER TRUTH, Negro slave Isabella, in 1827 said, "Wherever I go, I'll tell the truth about slavery. And my name will be Sojourner Truth." An abolitionist, she was nurse, scout and spy for the Union Army, during Civil War.



CRISPUS ATTUCKS, in 1770, led defiance of colonial oppressors. First to die in American Revolution.



FIRST NEGRO NEWSPAPER in the U. S., published in 1827 by John B. Russwurm, first U. S. Negro college graduate.



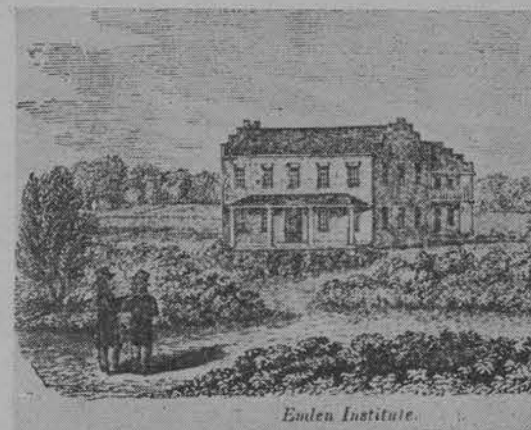
FIRST NEGRO BAPTIST CHURCH in North America. Right after Revolution, greater equality shown by some sects, drew educated Negroes towards church. Negroes were sometimes permitted to preach to mixed congregations.



SAMUEL R. WARD, orator, one of many fighting for freedom.



JOSEPH CINQUE led revolt of 54 Africans on ship "Amistad."



EMLIN INSTITUTE, a secondary school for the education of Negroes, was established in Ohio, in 1842.



PHYLIS WHEATLEY, a former African slave, became noted as writer and poet during period of American Revolution. Though not a great writer by today's standards, she equalled ability of any American woman then.



RUNAWAY SLAVES were frequent during slavery era and so were ads appealing for their recapture.



HARRIET TUBMAN, beloved Negro leader of the 18th century, closely identified with Underground Railroad.



A THOUSAND HEROIC NEGRO SOLDIERS led assault on Fort Wagner during Civil War. White commander buried with fallen Negro comrades.



RECONSTRUCTION CONGRESS brought Negroes social and civil rights, first public school system in South. (S.C. legislators, above).

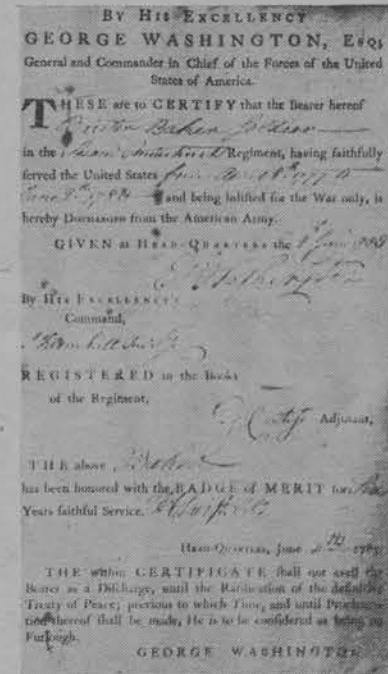
THESE PICTURES represent but a tiny fraction of Negro history. Nevertheless, they serve to illustrate the courage and talents of the Negro people and to remind us of monstrous injustices suffered by them. The fight for their freedom goes on!



THADDEUS KOSCIUSKO, born in Poland, Feb. 12, 1756, was patriot of the American Revolution, whose Will in 1798 provided for education of Negroes.



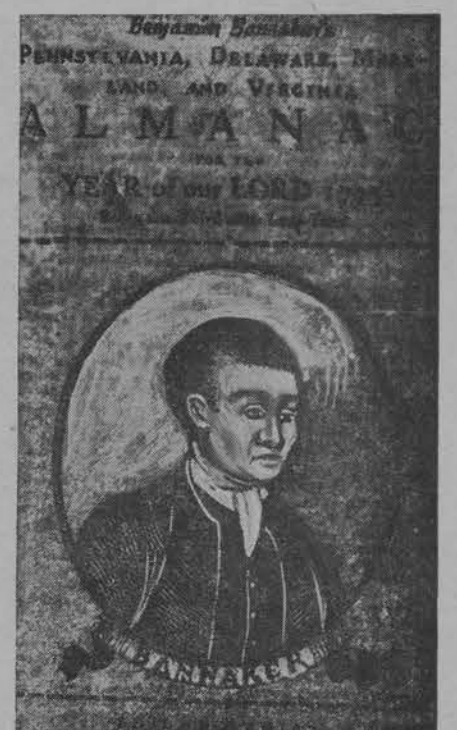
FREDERICK DOUGLASS' HOME stands in Washington, D. C. Here are kept on view for the general public many of the personal belongings as well as historic items and mementoes of the great Negro leader.



BADGE OF MERIT and Discharge issued to Negro soldier by George Washington, 1789. This was received by one of the 4,000 Negro soldiers who served. Others received higher awards.



ELLEN CRAFT, mulatto, posed as owner of husband, William, during escape from Georgia slavery.



BENJAMIN BANNEKER, admired by Thomas Jefferson, was mathematician. Made first American clock, 1770.



EDMONIA LEWIS became distinguished sculptress in Boston, despite hardships of free Negroes in North. There were others, too.



# CALENDAR of SELECTED EVENTS

**1496**  
December 2—Christopher Columbus discovered Haiti, island between N. and S. America.

**1539**  
March 7—Little Stephen, a Negro, set out to explore southwestern part of U. S.

**1619**  
August 29—Twenty Negroes brought into the American Colonies from Africa in a Dutch ship to Jamestown, Virginia.

**1652**  
March 28—Samuel Sewall born. Anti-slavery author.

**1663**  
First known slave revolt planned in America, was betrayed in Gloucester, Virginia.

**1706**  
January 17—Benjamin Franklin born. Supporter of anti-slavery movement.

**1712**  
April 8—Negro slave revolt in New York City.

**1713**  
January 31—Anthony Benezet born. Teacher of Negroes and promoter of anti-slavery cause.

**1731**  
November 9—Benjamin Bannaker born. Negro inventor and astronomer.

**1732**  
February 22—George Washington born. Liberator of his slaves.

**1737**  
January 29—Thomas Paine born.

**1739**  
Sept. 9—Stono, Georgia, Negro slave revolt.

**1743**  
April 13—Thomas Jefferson born. Advocate of freedom and equality.

**1753**  
May 20—Toussaint L'Ouverture born. Haitian liberator.

**1758**  
July 18—Lemuel Haynes born. Negro preacher.

**1770**  
March 5—Crispus Attucks, a Negro seaman, first to fall in American Revolution, during Boston Massacre.

**1775**  
April 14—First abolition society in the United States founded.

**1776**  
February 28—Phyllis Wheatley, Negro writer of verse, invited to visit George Washington.

**1785**  
September 28—David Walker born. Author of the "Appeal" against slavery.

**1786**  
September 24—Jupiter Hammon published his address to the Negroes of New York.

**1787**  
The Continental Congress by adoption of the Northwest Ordinance excluded slavery forever from the Northwest Territory.

**1792**  
April 4—Thaddeus Stevens born. Distinguished reconstructionist.

**1794**  
November 3—William Cullen Bryant born. Poet of freedom.

**1798**  
May 5—The will of Thaddeus Kosciuszko, Polish fighter for freedom, provided for education of Negroes.

October 28—Levi Coffin born. Founder and so-called president of the "underground railroad," which honeycombed the Northern States.

## THIS CALENDAR

is not a complete list of events of the Negro in history. We invite our readers to fill the gaps by sending us information of events and dates which should be included in such a calendar—The Editors.

**1800**  
May 9—John Brown born. Martyred American fighter for Negro liberation.

**1804**  
August 3—Slave revolt led by Gabriel Prosser and Jack Bowler, near Richmond, Va.

**1806**  
October 2—Birth of Nat Turner, leader of famous revolt of 1831 in Virginia.

**1807**  
May 25—Ralph W. Emerson born. Writer and advocate of freedom.

**1810**  
January 1—Haiti declared its independence.

**1811**  
December 10—William Lloyd Garrison born. Great abolitionist.

**1812**  
England abolishes slave trade.

**1813**  
February 27—Henry W. Longfellow born. Liberal poet.

**1814**  
March 25—Slave trade abolished by British Parliament.

**1815**  
December 17—John G. Whittier born. Anti-slavery poet.

**1816**  
February 14—Frederick Douglass' "Birthday." Friend of Lincoln and great Negro leader.

**1817**  
February 12—Abraham Lincoln born.

**1818**  
February 1—Charles Lenox Remond born. Negro abolitionist.

**1819**  
August 4—Robert Purvis born. Negro abolitionist.

**1820**  
January 6—Charles Sumner born. Fearless advocate of equality and justice.

**1821**  
January 9—Outbreak of Negro slave revolt in Louisiana, led by Charles, a mulatto.

**1822**  
June 14—Harriet Beecher Stowe born. Author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," foremost anti-slavery novel of that day.

**1823**  
November 29—Wendell Phillips born. Orator of the Abolition Cause.

**1824**  
February 16—Henry Wilson born. Abolitionist.

**1825**  
May 6—Martin R. Delany born. Negro army officer and author.

**1826**  
June 24—Henry Ward Beecher born. Lecturer and promoter of equal rights.

**1827**  
December 28—The American Colonization Society organized.

**1828**  
January 28—George S. Boutwell born. Author of the 13th Amendment abolishing slavery.

**1829**  
May 31—Walt Whitman born. Great American poet of freedom and full democracy.

**1830**  
October 7—William Still born. Negro Abolitionist and agent of the "Underground Railroad."

**1831**  
April 3—Edward Everett Hale born. Anti-slavery author.

**1832**  
January 1—William Lloyd Garrison founded the Abolitionist newspaper, "The Liberator."

**1833**  
August 21—Revolt of slaves led by Nat Turner in Virginia.

**1833**  
Organization of the American Anti-Slavery Society in Philadelphia.

**1834**  
August 1—Slavery abolished in British dependencies.

**1836**  
March 17—Texas, as a republic, abolished slave trade.

**1844**  
February 27—Dominican Republic established.

**1846**  
January 16—Convention of New England working men at Lynn, Mass., adopts resolution against Negro enslavement.

**1847**  
August 24—Independence of Liberia proclaimed.

**1850**  
September 18—Fugitive Slave Law passed, which was supposed to help perpetuate slavery but which further inspired the "underground railroad" to rescue more slaves for freedom.

**1852**  
Harriet Beecher Stowe's "Uncle Tom's Cabin" printed.

**1853**  
First Negro YMCA organized in Washington, D. C., by Anthony Bowen.

**1854**  
February 10—Joseph C. Price born. Negro orator and educator.

**1855**  
March 1—Joseph Weydemeyer, a friend of Karl Marx, at a meeting of the Workingmen's League in NYC presented a resolution against the extension of slavery. It was adopted.

**1856**  
May 10—Elizabeth Taylor Greenfield, a Negro woman, invited to sing before Queen Victoria. Attention, Daughters of American Revolution, 1946!

**1857**  
April 18—Booker T. Washington, Negro educator, born.

**1858**  
March 6—Dred Scott decision, which denied Negroes the right to be regarded as "persons."

**1859**  
June 20—Charles Waddell Chestnutt born. Negro novelist.

**1860**  
June 21—Henry Ossawa Tanner born. Famous Negro-American painter.

**1861**  
October 16—John Brown's attack on Harper's Ferry, in an effort to liberate and arm the slaves in Virginia. The South hanged John Brown and six followers. Abolitionists hailed John Brown as a martyr.

**1862**  
December 2—John Brown executed at Charles-town, W. Virginia, for his raid on Harper's Ferry, in behalf of the slaves.

**1863**  
April 16—Emancipation of slaves in the District of Columbia.

**1864**  
June 3—U. S. recognized Haiti and Liberia as nations.

**1865**  
September 22—Abraham Lincoln announced his intention to proclaim the emancipation of slaves.

**1866**  
January 1—Emancipation Proclamation issued by Abraham Lincoln.

**1867**  
March 2—Frederick Douglass issues appeal to Negroes to join the Union forces in war against slavery.

**1868**  
July 1—Abolition of slavery in the Dutch West Indies.

**1869**  
July 13—Start of anti-Negro riots in NYC engineered by southern slave owners in collaboration with Wall Street pro-slavery elements.

# IN NEGRO HISTORY



**1865**  
January 30—13th Amendment passed by Congress.

**1866**  
April 9—Surrender of Robert E. Lee in Civil War.

**1867**  
April 14—Abraham Lincoln, 16th President of U. S., assassinated.

**1868**  
December 18—Thirteenth Amendment to Constitution ratified, abolishing slavery in U. S.

**1869**  
February 23—William E. B. DuBois born. Negro educator.

**1870**  
July 28—Fourteenth Amendment to the U. S. Constitution ratified, declaring that all persons born or naturalized here are citizens, and shall not be deprived of their rights to equal and full protection of the laws.

**1871**  
Isaac Meyers, delegate of the Colored Caulkers Trade Union of Baltimore, addressed the Fourth Congress of the National Labor Union which adopted resolution for equality for Negroes.

**1872**  
February 26—Fifteenth Amendment to Constitution (Negro Suffrage) passed by Congress.

**1873**  
December 1—First national Negro labor convention held in Washington, D. C.

**1874**  
February 25—Hiram R. Revels, first Negro U. S. Senator, took oath of office.

**1875**  
December 12—Joseph H. Rainey took his seat as the first Negro member of the House of Representatives.

**1876**  
June 27—Paul Laurence Dunbar born. Negro poet.

**1877**  
March 23—Abolition of slavery in Puerto Rico.

**1878**  
July 4—Booker T. Washington began his work at Tuskegee.

**1879**  
Negro membership in Knights of Labor reaches total of 60,000.

**1880**  
May 14—Abolition of slavery in Brazil.

**1881**  
March 1—Abyssinians defeated Italians at Adowa.

**1882**  
March 15—Eight Negroes massacred by mob in Palmetto, Ga.

**1883**  
Chicago DEFENDER started publication. The Negro Movement for equal rights founded in N. Y. In 1910 it merged with the NAACP.

**1884**  
September 22—Bloody riot in Atlanta, Ga., incited by "Atlanta News" to prevent Negroes from voting in elections.

**1885**  
U. S. Supreme Court holds literacy tests for voters as unconstitutional.

**1886**  
Carter G. Woodson organizes Association for Study of Negro Life and History.

**1887**  
August 23—Attack on Negro soldiers by police of Houston, Texas, which led to protest by Negro troops. Mass trial resulted in hanging of 13 Negro soldiers and life sentences for 41.

**1888**  
August 7—"Secret Information Concerning Black American Troops" issued in France by Pershing's HQ to establish Jim Crow system.

**1889**  
AFL Convention in Atlantic City votes to abolish Jim Crow in its unions.

**1890**  
The Urban League was started.

**1891**  
July 19—Start of three-day reign of terror in Washington, D. C., to bar democracy to Negroes.

**1892**  
January—Angelo Herndon. Twenty-year sentence for organizing Negro and white workers in Atlanta, Georgia.

**1893**  
American Negroes starred in Olympic Games in Berlin. Jesse Owens won three events. Archie Williams, John Woodruff and Cornelius Johnson were also winners.

**1894**  
May 5—Italian troops under fascist Mussolini occupy Addis Ababa.

**1895**  
William Emonson, Negro sculptor, held one-man show at Museum of Modern Art, in NYC.

**1896**  
June 14—Scottsboro Boys. Haywood Patterson's 75-year sentence confirmed by Supreme Court.

**1897**  
July 24—Four Scottsboro Boys convicted; four freed.

**1898**  
June 22—Joe Louis, famous heavyweight champion, knocks out Nazi champion, Max Schmeling, in one round at Yankee Stadium, NYC.

**1899**  
May 5—Return of Haile Selassie to Addis Ababa.

**1900**  
June 25—Executive Order 8802, famous "Fair Employment Practice Act" (FEPC), signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

**1901**  
December 8—First war casualty of U. S. Armed Forces was Pvt. Robert H. Brooks, son of a Kentucky sharecropper family. Brooks Field at Ft. Knox named in his honor.

**1902**  
January 31—Ethiopia's independence restored during United Nations' war on fascist countries.

**1903**  
February 28—Anti-Negro riots in Detroit.

**1904**  
March 31—U. S. and Liberia sign agreement, granting U. S. air bases and military control.

**1905**  
April 7—Admission of Negro seamen in U. S. Naval Reserve announced.

## NEGRO AND NATIONAL GROUPS (Continued from page 3)

### FROM GREEK-AMERICAN LEADER

NEGRO History Week is of great importance to every nationality group and to the nation as a whole. The struggle to protect the democratic rights of the Negro people in America is interwoven with the entire struggle against the un-American sentiments which are being cultivated by fascist-minded groups and individuals. The defeat of the attacks against the Negro people helps to defeat every attack by reaction against the foreign born.

NICK MARINOS, Secretary,  
Hellenic-American Fraternal Society, IWO.

### ANTI-NEGROISM AND ANTI-SEMITISM

"The role of the Negro people has been completely omitted from American history text books. \* \* \*

"American history should properly include all ethnic groups which helped to make it.

"The ill treatment of the Negro is one of the causes for the growth of anti-Semitism. Once we submit to persecution of any people we make fertile the ground for future hatreds to grow."

GWENDOLYN BENNETT,  
Director of George Washington Carver School.

April 12—Ten firms with U. S. war contracts during war against fascists ordered to stop racial and religious discrimination against employees.

May 8—Vice-President Henry A. Wallace makes "Century of the Common Man" speech.

October 9—Ethiopia becomes 30th nation to join the United Nations fight against the fascists.

## 1944

April 3—U. S. Supreme Court voided the Texas "white primary" law, ruling that Texas must allow Negro citizens to vote in primaries. This affected eight Southern States.

November 7—Election to the New York City Council of Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., Negro Communist. Davis was reelected to the City Council in 1945.

November 7—Election to Congress of Rev. A. Clayton Powell.

Nullification of collusive agreements between certain southern railroad companies and railroad unions against Negro firemen.

War Department Order abolishing segregation and discrimination in Army posts. Entry of Negro women into WAVE's; commissioning of Negro officers in Navy.

President F. D. Roosevelt uses armed forces to break up anti-Negro transit strike in Philadelphia. First time since Lincoln that armed forces have been used directly to uphold the citizenship rights of Negroes.

Anti-discriminatory housing law in NYC. Goes beyond public housing into semi-private housing.

1945

January—Negro troops in mixed units stop Nazi offensive in Battle of the Bulge.

February—House Labor Committee okays permanent FEPC Bill.

March—New York State adopts FEPC. Georgia repeals poll tax. Negro GI's blackjacked by police in Jackson, Miss.

May—Bilbo urges sending American Negroes back to Africa in Senate speech.

October—First dent made in baseball big league Jim Crow when Brooklyn Dodgers sign Jackie Robinson for Montreal team.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We wish to express our special appreciation of the valuable assistance of Mr. Carter G. Woodson, founder of the National Association For Study of Negro Life and History and originator of Negro History Week. Mr. Woodson devoted many hours of his time and considerable labor to the collection of many of the pictures we have used in this bulletin, and many more we were, regrettably, unable to use for lack of space. In addition to this, Mr. Woodson informed us on numerous historical matters which helped us in preparing the 1946 bulletin. We are obligated for his permission to use, in modified form, the selected dates from his calendar, as well as to reproduce certain art drawings.

Among others, we also wish to thank the many prominent Americans, Negro and white, who have contributed to this bulletin their comments on Negro History Week (see page 7).

We hope that those who read and use this bulletin will take time out for comments and suggestions. We are acutely aware of many shortcomings in this publication although, with limited time and staff, as well as funds, we have done our best. We are sure, with your help, we will do better in the future.—The Editors.

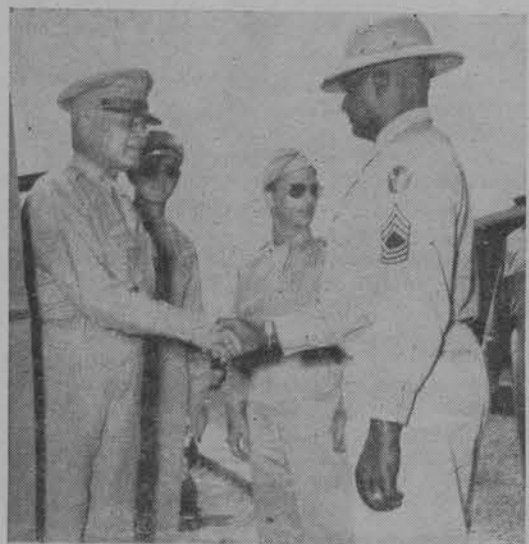
## BLACK AND WHITE

"Labor in the white skin cannot emancipate itself where in the black it is branded."—KARL MARX.





**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS**, medals were awarded to these Negroes in France, in 1919, by Major General Eli A. Helmick, for exceptional bravery in World War I.



**BRIG. GEN. BENJAMIN O. DAVIS, Jr.** (L) greeted M/Sgt. Howard Williams at fighter pilot school in Texas. Their combined military service exceeds 75 years.

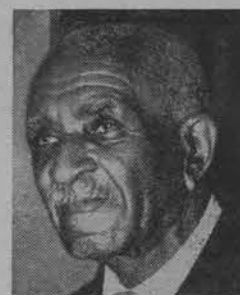


**NEGRO TROOPS** ship out for duty overseas in 1942. Many are buried there. Together with white comrades, those who return fight for jobs and equality.



**AUGUSTA SAVAGE**, Negro sculptress, completing her interesting "The Harp," based on anthem, "Lift Every Voice and Sing," shown at N. Y. World's Fair, 1939.

# SOME ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE NEGRO PEOPLE



**GEORGE W. CARVER**  
Day was held on Jan. 5, in honor of the Missouri-born scientific genius who died in 1943.

## I. ANCIENT TIMES

In the ancient world, up to the European invasion of Africa and the development of the slave trade, evidences establish that the African peoples had accomplished a relatively high degree of culture generally equal to—and in some instances higher than—European cultures. The principal discovery of the African Negroes, according to Franz Boas, was the smelting of ores, especially hard irons. This discovery was transmitted to ancient Europe and China and western Asia.

## II. NEGRO EXPLORERS

Negro explorers have played an important part in extending the borders of the known world. A Negro, Pedro Alonso, was a pilot of one of the three ships by which Columbus charted the New World. Negroes accompanied Balboa, Cortes, Ayllon de Vaca, Coronado, Cartier and Champlain. Twenty Negroes landed in Jamestown, Virginia, one year ahead of the Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock.

## III. SURVIVORS OF SLAVERY

One hundred million Africans were forcibly transported to other continents from the 14th to 19th centuries. In the period from 1619 to about 1850, while 15 million reached American shores, 75 millions died enroute as slave trade victims of disease, hunger and brutality. Yet, despite this gigantic system of despoliation of a continent and the degradation of its people, Africa and the Afro-Americans have contributed to the advancement of agriculture and industry, to the development of the arts, sciences, literature, history, philosophy, inventions and discoveries of Europe and the Americas.

## IV. BATTLES FOR FREEDOM

The role of Negro Americans in the American Revolution, and other American wars, is treated separately in this issue. (See Negroes in American Wars.) But Negro Americans made other contributions to the historic battles for freedom, refuting the "big black lie" that Negroes are by nature submissive and slavish and will not fight for liberty. Although practically without allies, Negroes in colonial America and the United States, from 1700 to 1865, planned and organized at least 130 revolts. That many are known; there must have been many more.

Prior to 1700 there were seven known attempts

at insurrection by Negro slaves in Virginia, Maryland, New York and Massachusetts. Among the most significant of these battles for freedom by which Negro slaves themselves laid the foundations for the Abolitionist movement, were:

1. The revolt of 1800 led by the Prosser brothers—Gabriel, Solomon and Martin—in Virginia. Jack Bowler also led in this action.
2. The Charleston revolt in 1822, South Carolina, led by Denmark Vesey.
3. The Southampton (Virginia) revolt in 1831, led by Nat Turner.

These slave revolts successfully fanned the fires of the powerful Abolitionist movement in which Negro and white united to destroy slavery. Among the Negro leaders in this organized struggle for freedom were: Frederick Douglass, William Still, William C. Nell, William Wells Brown, Samuel E. Cornish, Richard Allen, Henry Highland Garnett, Samuel R. Ward, Sojourner Truth, David Walker, and Harriet Tubman.

## V. NEGROES IN AMERICAN WARS

### World War I.

About 400,000 Negroes served in the war among American armed forces, half of them overseas in France. Despite various limitations, 1,200 Negroes were commissioned as officers. The 370th-8th Illinois regiment, officered by Negroes, received more citations than any other American regiment. The story of World War I is one of the most shameful narratives in mass scale discrimination against people of color known to American history. (Read chapter XXIX, The Negro in Our History, by Carter G. Woodson.)

### Spanish-American War

Major Charles E. Young and J. R. Marshall, Negroes, were outstanding U. S. Army officers. There were four Negro regiments of regulars, of which the 10th Cavalry saved Col. Roosevelt's troops from annihilation at San Juan Hill. Negro troops fought at Santiago.

### Civil War

About 200,000 Negroes served in the U. S. armed forces, more than 50,000 of whom were killed or discharged because of wounds. At the end of the war there were 120 Negro infantry regiments, 12 heavy artillery regiments and 7 cavalry regiments. About 75 Negroes were commissioned. Despite Jim Crow in the Northern

(Continued on page 13)



—FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

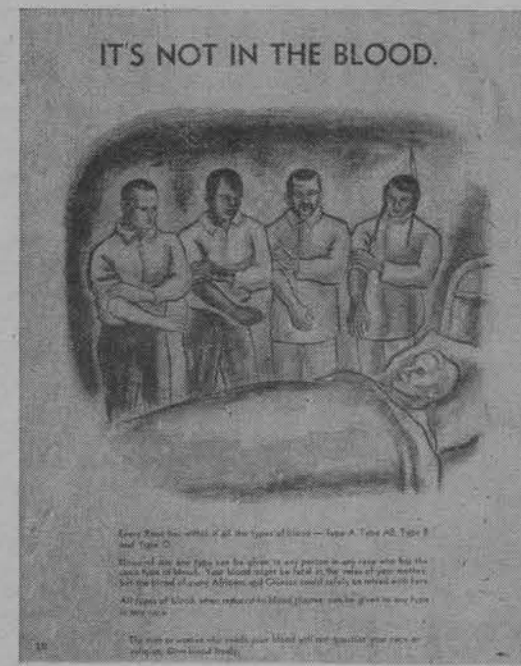
# POSTERS TELL THE STORY OF RACES



**WHY** are there different races? What is the reason for persons being born with white skin, black skin or yellow skin? With straight hair, curly hair or kinky hair?

Is it because of some inherently fundamental difference between these different racial types?

Absolutely not. Man is essentially the same. His physical structure and appearance are the outcome of adaptation to natural environment. Men differ in color and structure according to differences in their land, climate, diet, culture, etc. These things can be easily and quickly learned from a series of 15 picture posters called the "Races of Man." Composed of interesting photographs and drawings to illustrate the subject, each poster tells a complete fact story relating a significant aspect of race and culture. Some of the topics covered are: "What is Race," "The Jews Are Not a Race," "Culture Is Not Inborn," "Composition of the American Negro."



The posters cost \$5.00 for a complete set. Orders should be addressed to Mrs. Edmonia W. Grant, Director of Education, Race Relations Division, American Missionary Association, 287 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y. Checks and money orders, however, should be made payable to Charles S. Johnson, Director of Race Relations Division of this organization.

## 5. Theatre and Films

Paul Robeson, singer, actor, athlete, anti-fascist, winner of Thirtieth Spingarn Award. Canada Lee, Hilda Simms, Lena Horne, Kenneth Spencer. Dancers: Katherine Dunham, Pearl Primus, Bill Robinson.

## 6. Athletes

Joe Louis, Howard Drew, Jesse Owens, Henry Armstrong, Satchel Paige, John Woodruff, William Watson, Cornelius Johnson.

# ACHIEVEMENTS of the NEGRO PEOPLE

(Continued from page 12)

forces, Negro civilians aided in the war against the Confederacy, acting as spies, saboteurs and armed volunteers. During the war, Negro troops displayed their valor and won wide recognition for fine fighting qualities. The use of Negro soldiery, authorized in the Emancipation Proclamation, was a decisive strategy of the war against slavery.

## American Revolution

Crispus Attucks was the first American to die in the struggle for independence. Many Negroes served as minutemen, prominent among them being Lemuel Haynes. Washington's Continental Army included 4,000 Negro soldiers from the 13 colonies. They fought in mixed and special regiments. Among the Negro heroes of the war were Peter Salem (Bunker Hill); Salem Poore (Savannah and Charleston); and Austin Dabney. Many Negroes were also noted for heroism at Bunker Hill, Monmouth, Rhode Island, Points Bridge, Long Island and other battles.

## VI. CULTURAL CONTRIBUTION

### 1. Some outstanding scientists and inventors:

Benjamin Banneker, surveyor and astronomer, made first American clock in 1770. Jo Anderson perfected the first harvester machine, the reaper.

John Ernest Matzinger, mechanic, invented the automatic shoe-making machine. Granville T. Woods, who worked in Edison's New Jersey laboratories, leading scientist in creation of electric railways, telegraph systems.

Louis H. Latimer, helped perfect the Maxim gun; Solomon Harper in 1909 invented self-exploding airplane torpedo; Dr. Charles E. Drew, leading authority on preservation of blood plasma for emergency transfusions.

George Washington Carver, slaveborn, pioneered in development of new industrial products from the sweet potato and peanut. His methods for dehydration of fruits and vegetables have saved valuable shipping space in this war.

### 2. Music

Great cultural contribution of Negro folk music and spirituals.

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, one of the best known modern composers. A great contemporary composer is William Grant Still.

W. C. Handy, originator of "The Blues." Paul Robeson, Marian Anderson, Dorothy Maynor, Roland Hayes, Todd Duncan.

Dean Dixon, Duke Ellington and Louis Armstrong are among a host of outstanding Negro musicians.

### 3. Literature

Phyllis Wheatley, poet of the American Revolution, commended by Washington.

Frederick Douglass, leading orator and journalist of the Abolitionist movement.

Charles W. Chesnut, story writer, and Paul Laurence Dunbar, poet.

The late James Weldon Johnson and Countee Cullen are widely known. Also Langston Hughes, Roi Ottley, Richard Wright, Alain Locke, Carl Oford and Sterling Brown.

### 4. Artists and Sculptors

Hale Woodruff, Aaron Douglas, Jacob Lawrence, Sam Brown, Claude Clarke.

Richmond Barthe, Augusta Savage, Sargent Johnson.

(Continued in column at left)



# HOLLYWOOD STARS

## FIGHT DISCRIMINATION

### BETTE DAVIS:

"What is religious and racial understanding but getting along with your fellow man—the other fellow?"

"Hasn't the war taught us that necessity? Hasn't the obligation of religious and racial good-will been written in the blood of ALL kinds of men—of ALL kinds of faiths?"



"Did the Army, Navy or Marine Corps ask whether a man were Negro or white, a Catholic, a Protestant or a Jew when they placed guns into their hands? You know they didn't."

"Men of all faiths have fought side by side in the armed forces against a common foe. If they hadn't, there would never have been a V-E Day. And if they weren't fighting side by side, there would never (have been) a V-J Day."

"The emergency of war taught us that men of all faiths CAN exist together with dignity and admiration for one another."

"DID IT TAKE A WAR TO PROVE THIS TO US?"

"Will we lose that respect for one another with the peace?"

"If so, we shall have fought this war in vain."

"Let's make 'The Brotherhood of Man' more than a pretty phrase!"

"LET'S MAKE IT WORK!"

### BOB HOPE:

"I saw a lot of casualties. The biggest one I saw was the blitzing by the worst enemy of all—race prejudice. That was the biggest casualty after Germany. In fact, it was the same thing! I flew in an airplane over a jungle in Burma, and huddled up in this sky-crate with me were a dozen fine fellows — all Americans. Only difference was in religion and color of skin. Not that it made any difference to them — all bound for fox-holes somewhere in the big scrimmage eight thousand miles away from home."



"I didn't see any signs of race or religious prejudice anywhere. Maybe it was just my luck, but I happened to be among decent, intelligent fellows who hadn't anything silly about them."

"History isn't the bunk. A lot can be learned from it. There are still too many Caesars who believe themselves superior to everybody else. Superior to the fellow who goes to another church, or who belongs to another 'race'—which is the silliest delusion of all, for no man can 'belong' to anything but the human race."

### FRANK SINATRA:

"... When I was going to school over in Jersey, a bunch of guys threw rocks at me and called me a little Dago. I know a lot of things now. I know now why they used to call the Jewish kids in the neighborhood 'kikes' and 'sheenies' and the colored kids 'niggers.' That was so wrong! ..."



"That's how the Nazis used racial and religious prejudice to weaken the people they wanted to defeat and enslave. And that's exactly how racial and religious prejudice can undermine a nation. ..."

"Now this is our job... your job and my job and the job of the generations growing up... to stamp out unfounded prejudices and make the most of this wonderful country—this country that's been built by many people, many creeds, nationalities and races in such a way that it can never be divided. ..."

### HUMPHREY BOGART:

"Listen, brother. In this man's country you can marry the girl you like. You can pal around with the folks you like. You can pray in a church of your own choosing. Okay. But that doesn't mean that one kind of church is better than other. It doesn't mean one kind of people is better than another. ..."



"Here's what science knows. It doesn't say maybe. It knows."

"There are no 'superior races.' There are only people who for a time happen to be luckier or better situated than other people."

"There are no 'inferior races.' There are only people who've had bad luck, or poor education, or maybe live in a tough climate."

"Examine a man's brain. It tells you nothing about his 'race.' Test his blood. It tells you nothing about his 'race.' (Healthy blood plasma can save the life of any wounded soldier of any color.)"

## Eleanor Roosevelt Discusses FEAR



ELEANOR ROOSEVELT (Second, R.) continues to be a leader in the fight against racial discrimination.

AT A dinner in the Biltmore Hotel, support was urged for the Adult Workshop in Interracial Relations of the Downtown Community School at 233 East 11th Street, by noted Negro and white Americans. Among them were Dr. Channing Tobias, executive in the Y.M.C.A.; Dr. Margaret Mead, associate curator of ethnology; Dr. J. Raymond Walsh, chairman, State PAC; Dr. Stephen S. Wise and Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt.

In praising the school's program, Mrs. Roosevelt deplored fears based on lack of knowledge and in this connection reported a conversation with a shopper who opposed disclosure of American atom discoveries because "she was afraid of the Russians."

"I told this woman," Mrs. Roosevelt said, "that the Russians are people like you and me. They are no different. If we learn to trust them, perhaps they will trust us."

"Until the little lady carrying packages in the subway stops being afraid of something she doesn't know, the world is not going to know peace."

"Schools should begin very early teaching youngsters not to be afraid because being afraid is what leads to disunity. You will find, I think, that fear which starts with the small child is what in the adult leads to so many of our failures."

"It leads to not being able to have confidence in people of different races and different religions. We don't know them, we don't feel that we understand them; therefore, we fear them and, therefore, we can't get on with them. We see that in our international relations; we see that at home here now in our neighborhoods, and I think that is the thing that we have got to fight on every level. We have to fight it not only with education for our small child but we have to fight it immediately with our parents. That is why a combination education of youngsters and their parents is an excellent combination."

In 17 Southern states, in 1940 there were 2,174,260 Negro children in elementary schools; 254,580 in high schools.

# SPOTLIGHT ON SOME OF TODAY'S HISTORY MAKERS



Langston Hughes  
Poet



Carter G. Woodson  
Historian



Charles R. Drew  
Professor of Surgery



Kenneth Spencer  
Singer



Max Yergan  
Educator, Leader



W. E. B. Du Bois  
Writer



Lena Horne  
Singer and Actress



Marian Anderson  
Singer



Katherine Dunham  
Dancer



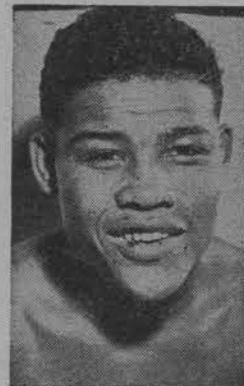
Hilda Simms  
Actress



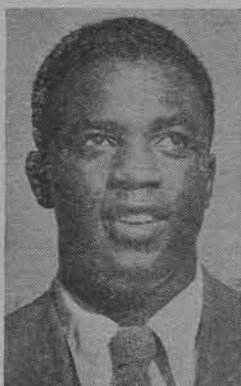
Hazel Scott  
Pianist



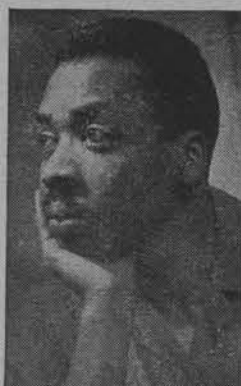
Pearl Primus  
Dancer



Joe Louis  
World Champion



Jackie Robinson  
Baseball Player



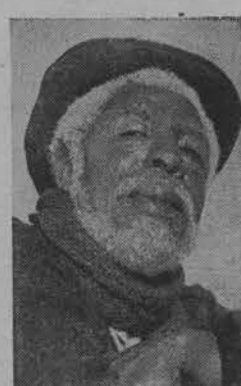
Claude Clarke  
Artist



Ernest E. Just  
Biologist



Canada Lee  
Actor



Clarence Muse  
Actor



Mary McLeod Bethune  
Educator



Benjamin J. Davis, Jr.  
N. Y. City Councilman



Adam Clayton Powell  
U. S. Congressman



Charles Houston  
Ex-FEPC Official



Duke Ellington  
Musician



Dean Dixon  
Conductor and Composer



## IWO LODGES IN NEGRO COMMUNITY

MANY important IWO activities have taken place in the communities during the past year. These included efforts to help stem the deliberately planned attacks made against the Negro people in such places as South Chicago, Gary, Detroit and New York. During anti-Negro school strikes in Gary and South Chicago, IWO lodges helped to stop the outrages. Charles A. Hill, IWO Negro leader in Detroit, with strong support from IWO members, especially in our national group communities, received a huge progressive vote, which nearly elected him to the City Council. In New York City, IWO members contributed in the re-election of Brother Ben Davis, Jr., to the City Council.

In Chicago, a most impressive meeting was held by DuSable Lodge, participated in by nationality groups of that city, and attended by a cross-section of the community. There were about 2,000 in attendance, comprising 1,500 Negro and 500 white guests.

In New York, Solidarity Lodge 691 held successful Saturday evening educational forums for the community. At these meetings, native and foreign born residents of the community learned many new things, under the heading "The Struggle for Freedom."

In Detroit, General Lodge 551 devoted itself to helping the General Motors strikers, by relieving strikers' families with baskets of needed food. Meetings were held to inform the community about the issues and to counteract vicious propaganda.

In Pittsburgh, IWO lodges were active in the last election campaign to elect a Negro alderman, as they were in the fight against barring of Negroes from the new YMCA and elsewhere. IWO'ers helped to break down discrimination barriers in mining communities and in steel centers.

Important work was done among general lodges too. In Staten Island, Lodge 706 obtained housing for a Negro family against whom there was discrimination. Lodge members participate in inter-racial unity actions in the community, join in local actions to maintain OPA prices in stores, help to prosecute violators. They held meetings on the Wagner-Murray-Dingell Health and Social Security Bills.

Church leaders of Mount Zion Baptist Church cooperated with an IWO sister in opening a new General Lodge in the Bath Beach section of Brooklyn. Its initiation and first action in the community was a celebration of Negro History Week.

### One for All

These few examples of community work illustrate the deepened understanding of the significance of Negro-white unity. The 7,000 Negro members are educating the white membership to be alert against the pitfalls of separatism. Just as the great industrial union, the CIO, understood the need to unite all in one industry, of all faiths, creeds and color, so the IWO nationality groups are learning and are teaching others that discrimination against one group or minority leads to discrimination against all. Particularly those nationality groups in America which feel the sting of anti-Semitism and anti-alienism see better the character of oneness of the fight against all forms of discrimination. A good illustration of this is in the case of the fascist Bilbo, senator from Mississippi, who attacked first the Negro, and then other nationality groups, which make up the nation. Of course, IWO members are active in the campaign to have Bilbo impeached.

(Excerpts from article in February 1946 IWO Fraternal Outlook by Sam Milgrom, IWO General Director of Organization.)



IN CHICAGO, at an IWO community rally, following the funeral of the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the Monu-mental Baptist Church Choir, appreciated by Negro and white listeners, and promoting racial unity.



NEGRO FRATERNAL AND CHURCH LEADERS in New York City are interested in the varied pieces of literature, prepared by the IWO, dealing with the need for increased interracial activities to bring about jobs for all, without discrimination; greater social

security and the kind of freedom which rules the Bilbos and Rankins out of public life. (Seated, center) Sam Milgrom, General Organization Director, IWO; (Standing, second from left) Samuel C. Patterson, IWO National Negro Organizer.



LOUISE THOMPSON,  
IWO Vice-President.

One of the important Negro leaders in the fraternal movement for many years, championing unity of Negro and white.



LEADERS OF THE NATIONALITY GROUPS in the IWO look over new headquarters in Harlem, for which they will help to raise funds. Negro and white in the IWO are planning to make a real community center in the two buildings, which are located at 12-124 West 124th Street. Chicago plans a similar center.

## The Negro in THE FRATERNAL MOVEMENT

By SAM PATTERSON, IWO National Negro Organizer

IN SIZE of membership and importance, fraternal societies rank second only to churches in the Negro community. In Harlem (NYC) alone, 80,000 Negroes belong to 400 fraternal units. Allowing for overlapping memberships, the total Negro fraternal membership in the U. S. is about 2½ millions. In 1929, when the Grand United Order of Oddfellows last published figures, there were 700,000 members in 13,000 units. Chandler Owen reports that there are 60 national Negro fraternal organizations in this country.

In March, 1775, thirteen Negroes were initiated into Free Masonry, African Lodge No. 459, in colonial America. In 1842, Philomathean Lodge No. 646 received a charter from England and became the first lodge in the U. S. of the Grand United Order of Oddfellows. Lodge 646 was established in New Jersey, northern terminus of the Underground Railway.

### MODERN COMMUNICATIONS

Between the colonial and reconstruction eras in America, the slave status of the Negro people gave special importance to church and fraternal organizations. These institutions developed Negro leadership, and provided the social life of the community. In time, as Carter G. Woodson has noted, even business affairs were drawn into the fraternal sphere.

A sharp decline in the Negro fraternal movement has recently been noted. Modern communications, such as radio and motion pictures, the theatre and recreational centers are replacing fraternal centers. The wide-scale entrance of Negroes into the trade union movement since the inception of the CIO, and the broader integration of Negroes into American life, have become factors in diminishing the role of Negro fraternal societies. At the same time, the narrow focus of aims of many Negro fraternal leaders who have failed to keep pace with the deep changes taking place in the country has turned the Negro masses in other directions. Between the two world wars the social and political understanding and aspirations of the Negro Americans have expanded greatly, outreaching by far the old-type of leadership prevalent in many church and fraternal bodies.

### FULL EQUALITY

The International Workers Order holds a unique position among the fraternal organizations of the Negro community. It is the only fraternal insurance benefit society in America which unites Negro and white membership on the basis of full equality. In many respects the IWO supplies the required elements whose absence in the Negro fraternal organizations has contributed largely to their decline. These elements are: low cost insurance and sick benefits assured by established financial stability. Its democratic organization eliminates Jim Crow practices and offers completely integrated fraternal, cultural and social activities.

The IWO was organized in March, 1930. By 1944 there were about 3,500 Negroes and 161,500 white members. In 1945 the IWO doubled its Negro membership. In Chicago, DuSable Lodge has 2,000 members; in Harlem Lodge 691 there are 1,400 members. There are four other lodges in Negro communities in New York City. IWO lodges are also growing in Negro communities in Boston, Philadelphia, New Haven, Detroit and other cities. In Chicago and Harlem large IWO centers are being built.

The nationality group character of the IWO is an important aspect of its growing significance in the Negro fraternal movement. In this united labor fraternity of General Lodges and fourteen nationality societies, the Negro members enjoy full equality and, at the same time, find full opportunity to express their national culture, enriching all other national cultures and being enriched in turn by them. To the Negro people the IWO is America united.

The decline of the Negro fraternal movement is neither inevitable nor lasting. The many services rendered and being contributed to the people by Negro fraternal organizations can be enlarged. The development of IWO lodges in the Negro communities, as a part of the whole fraternal movement will stimulate the renaissance of all fraternal groups. The IWO program provides the basis for fraternal cooperation and growth for which there has been a long-felt need.

## IWO LEADER STRESSES FIGHT FOR EQUALITY

MAX BEDACHT, the General Secretary of the IWO, in a statement on the significance of Negro History Week in 1946, emphasized the deep necessity for pushing ahead the struggle for equal rights. He said:

"It is no accident that the International Workers Order in 1945 decided to concentrate on the objective of mass recruitment of Negro people into the Order. As a result of that important decision we doubled our Negro membership and seriously began the transformation of our organization from a predominantly white membership fraternal into an inter-racial society."

"This development has great significance for the nation in the fight for equality of the Negro people. A powerful inter-racial organization like the IWO can become the spearhead in that fight. It will provide the American people with a living demonstration of the possibility of such unity and the practice of equality. That is why we urge every Negro to join the IWO and thus not only improve his security through its benefits but aid the battle for equality."

### WE MOURN THE LOSS

OF COUNTEE CULLEN

People's Post, 1946

## Negroes in THE TRADE UNIONS

INCREASED employment of Negroes in industry has brought a parallel increase of their membership in the trade unions of America. From a Negro trade union membership of 150,000 in 1936-37, there was a jump to about 850,000 in 1944. There are over 425,000 Negroes in the CIO; 350,000 in the AFL; 50,000 in the United Mine Workers and about 25,000 in other unions.

Florence Peterson, Director of Industrial Relations Division, Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor, wrote that while some of the earlier precepts of the AFL were disregarded and color restrictions were made, "none of the CIO Internationals have adopted any restrictive rules against Negroes." The Negro handbook, 1944, shows 11 Negroes in the CIO executive for 1942-43 and six with such offices in the AFL. Robbie Mae Riddick, International Vice-President of the Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers of America (CIO) is perhaps the first Negro woman to be elected to the executive board of any national union.

### WIN NEGRO RIGHTS

The CIO has been in the forefront of the fight for recognition of Negroes in their equal rights to jobs, training, up-grading and promotion. The United Auto Workers (CIO), where there were not many Negroes before the war, conducted a wide educational campaign among its white membership on the necessity for winning Negro rights.

Discrimination is practiced in AFL unions by the Machinists and the Boilermakers, both of which unions hold bargaining contracts for a great section of the workers in these fields. There are other AFL unions that discriminate in one way or another against the Negro work-

ers. They discriminate by ritual or by constitution or by tacit consent. In some cases Negroes are admitted into segregated locals, with limited rights.

For the most part, absolute exclusion of Negroes is practiced by railroad unions, which are not affiliated to the AFL or the CIO.

In both the 1943 and 1944 AFL conventions resolutions were passed which expressed disapproval of discrimination. But in accepting a resolution for a permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee, the delegates rejected measures in FEPC bills which would make illegal, discrimination against Negroes by employers or by unions.

### WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION

On January 2, 1945, the California Supreme Court ruled that a trade union must admit Negroes to full membership or not try to enforce a closed shop. This hit the AFL Boilermakers, whose local Negro workers refused to join, since they would have no voice or vote. In December, 1944, the U. S. Supreme Court ruled that a union chosen as bargaining agent under the Railway Labor Act must represent all employees engaged in the work covered by the union, without discrimination because of race or non-membership.

The 1944 CIO convention urged its member unions to incorporate in their collective agreements "a provision that no person seeking employment shall be discriminated against because of race, creed, color or place of origin."

In very clear terms, the CIO called for a permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee, with teeth, so that decisions could be enforced. It declared that "Jim Crowism . . . and any other form of discrimination and bigotry must be excised from our national life."





## THE IWO Provides

- Membership Without Discrimination
- Low Cost Life Insurance Protection
- Sick and Disability Benefits
- Medical Care in Large Cities
- Fraternal Life for the Family
- Cultural and Social Activities
- Children's Insurance and Activities

## Join the IWO

Become a part of the fastest growing interracial organization which is promoting equality and fighting for the health and security of all the American people.

## THE INTERNATIONAL WORKERS ORDER

is an interracial labor fraternal benefit organization uniting fourteen nationality group societies and General Lodges. The general purposes of the Order are to provide insurance protection and sick benefits to the membership and to enrich their lives

through fraternal, cultural and recreational activities. The IWO is dedicated to the task of helping to establish a health and social security system through the adoption by Congress of the Wagner-Murray-Dingell Health and Social Security Bills: S. 1606—H.R. 4730 and S. 1050—H.R. 3293.

### NEGRO HISTORY WEEK BULLETIN

#### INTERNATIONAL WORKERS ORDER

General Office, 80 Fifth Avenue  
New York 11, N. Y.



Miss F. J. Musser  
Waldorf Astoria  
50 St & Park Ave  
N. Y. C

Rm 17B.

# RIVERDALE CHILDREN'S ASSOCIATION

Founded 1836

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## Office of Community Relations

122 EAST 22nd STREET, NEW YORK 10, N. Y.  
GRamercy 5-5965

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

February, 1946

Dear Friend:

This is not an appeal for funds. It is a letter to you as a valued friend and contributor of the Riverdale Children's Association. Confronted with financial limitations over the years, and with lack of staff all through the war, it became necessary for us to face our problems and goals realistically. To this end, after five months of study and consultation with child care experts, the Board of Trustees has voted several important changes in the policies of this agency.

At this moment, we have 325 dependent and neglected children under care in foster homes throughout Greater New York, and 150 children at the institution in Riverdale. These children come to us through the Department of Welfare and the Children's Courts. For some time we have been aware of the effective development of our children under foster care, since a foster home is a more natural environment in which to overcome the handicaps of a bad start.

We are about to initiate group foster home care - an experimental project which will be the first of its kind in New York City. Six children will be placed in each group home, attending school in the normal community and utilizing the recreational and social resources of that community. These children will be those who need a small group experience under skilled supervision, and for whom a regular foster home is not suitable. They will have careful medical, dental and psychiatric services in an atmosphere which more closely approximates what we mean when we say "a child's right to safety and security." We are planning to start several such group homes as quickly as possible. This experimental service, we are convinced, will give a better opportunity to the neglected child thus placed in the environment of a happy, healthy family life.

Recognizing that all children in need cannot be served by a foster home program, a Committee of the Board of Trustees is now making a study of the areas of greatest need in child care in New York, giving particular consideration to the children

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best served by institutional care. It may be a lack of institutional service for adolescent boys or perhaps girls; it may be a lack of service for the dull-normal group, or perhaps for a specific group of emotionally disturbed children. The child-care emergency in this city has not allowed us to serve qualitatively a single group and this intensified our difficulties at our present institution in Riverdale.

In the meantime, a study of every one of the 150 children at the institution who now represent a widely varied group, is already under way, under careful casework supervision. After a plan has been made for each of them, the Home at Riverdale will be closed. The agency has assumed full responsibility for a complete living plan for every child before the closing. We have been increasingly conscious of the inadequacy of our own institution facilities. The buildings, erected in 1905, can no longer meet the standards of modern child care. This is why we are closing the institution, expanding our foster home service and developing other facilities in the future.

As stewards of public funds, we feel that you should have a brief picture. The cost for the maintenance of our total services for the next 6 months will be \$254,000. Of this amount about \$140,000 will be received from public funds and other miscellaneous income. This means that we will have to raise about \$114,000 from voluntary sources between January 1st and June 30th when our fiscal year ends. This is a real test and challenge for the community.

We are mindful of the uncertainty of the times but know that the community will never fail to meet its obligations to the children served by a sound and forward-looking agency. These years have been notable for the development of an inter-racial admission policy in our agency, an inter-racial Board and staff. In the tense years that lie ahead for the young people of America, our contribution to racial unity and opportunity for all children is a link in the strong chain that will secure the peace.

During the 109 years of Riverdale's life, it has played a leading part in New York's child care services in the tradition of its Quaker founders. We mean to keep faith with our founders and with the 13,000 children who over the years have turned to us as guardians.

We look to you for the continued interest and support for which we have been so grateful in the past. We need your confidence and backing in behalf of the children to whom we are mutually dedicated.

Sincerely yours,

*Margaret DeVecchi*

Mrs. Robert DeVecchi  
President





BISHOP G. BROMLEY OXNAM  
COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS of the  
COMMISSION TO STUDY THE ORGANIZATION OF PEACE  
45 East 65th Street, New York City 21, N. Y.

I wish to be associated in presenting this draft proposal for an International Bill of Human Rights to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

I also enclose a contribution of \$..... to help you carry on your important work.

Name .....

Address .....

City..... Zone..... State.....

*Please make checks payable to the Committee on Human Rights.  
All Contributions are tax-exempt.*

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
of the  
COMMISSION TO STUDY THE ORGANIZATION OF PEACE

45 EAST 65TH STREET, NEW YORK 21, NEW YORK

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December 4, 1946

Dear Miss Musser:

In all the long forward march of mankind since the dawn of history, it remained for our generation to coin the word "genocide"- extermination of a race. Because there was no prevision of such a crime in the mind of civilized man, there was no tribunal competent to deal with it, nor was there adequate law under which to charge the criminals. To meet this necessity, the Nuremberg tribunal was constituted.

We live in a world community in which nation-states legislate for their respective peoples. We need to expand this legislative framework so that all men may have their fundamental human rights guaranteed and sanctioned by world agreement and authority. This purpose may be achieved through the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, charged with the formulation of an International Bill of Human Rights.

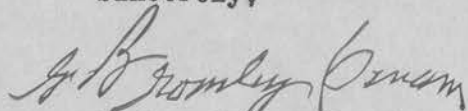
It is the genius of a democracy that its citizenry may share in the formulation of high policy. Parallel with the discussion carried on by the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, our Committee has done its work. We believe that our study has evolved a fitting Magna Carta for mankind, suitable for our times. We recognize that coming generations will amend and expand such a document to meet the needs of future times.

In the near future we shall present the enclosed draft proposal to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights for consideration and action. In making such presentation we seek to emphasize the democratic nature and strength of our support through inviting the adherence of thousands of representative Americans to the principles embodied in this Bill of Human Rights.

If you believe with us that our proposal for an International Bill of Human Rights fittingly incorporates and expands the principles set forth in our own Constitution, you belong with us. I ask that you signify your agreement by signing and returning to me the enclosed Statement of Support. If you also believe that such an International Bill of Human Rights will be one of the great keystones in the construction of a better world, you can help in its building by subscribing to our appeal for \$100,000 with which to finance this work.

It is the task of thinking man to prepare a better future for the generations which follow. If we succeed in such a task we shall have fulfilled our social mission. I hope that you will do what you can to help.

Sincerely,

  
Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam

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