

Says Labor Dept. Studies Proposal Made By NAACP

NEW YORK.— Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin told the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People this week that "every consideration" will be given to the recommendation that qualified Negro members be placed on important committees concerned with the organization of manpower for defense mobilization. He also stated that the U. S. Employment Service will recommend to state agencies that racial designations be removed from job application cards.

In a letter to NAACP Secretary Walter White, Secretary Tobin stated: "We are moving as rapidly as circumstances will permit in reviewing, analyzing, revising and adapting all present policies and operations of the Department of Labor in relations to the current defense program."

Admitting that in presently continuing "its established policies in the placement of minority groups," the Employment Service makes no referral to a position where services to be performed or the terms or conditions of employment are contrary to federal, state, or local law," Mr. Tobin assured Mr. White that efforts were being made to promote employment "based exclusively on job performance factors."

The Secretary of Labor's letter was in answer to a letter from Mr. White, pointing out the omission of any consideration of the problems of minority groups in the department's recently issued General Order No. 48, on defense manpower.

Educators Open Annual Meeting At Va. Union

RICHMOND, Va. (ANP)— The Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools opened its 17th annual convention, here Tuesday, Dec. 5, on campus of Virginia Union university.

Theme of the meeting is "Better Education for Better Human Relations."

Main address of the opening day's meeting was delivered by Dr. Horace Mann Bond, president of Lincoln (Pa.) university. He discussed "Education About Africa for Better Human Relations."

Greetings were given by Dr. Theodore F. Adams, president, board of trustees, Virginia Union, and H. I. Willett, superintendent of public schools. Dr. George W. Gore Jr., president, Florida A & M college and vice president of the Association, gave the response.

The Virginia Union university choir provided the music; Dr. John W. Barco, vice-president emeritus of the host school, delivered the benediction and invocation. Dr. J. M. Ellison, president, Virginia Union, presided over the meeting.

Officers of the Association are: President, Ira B. Bryant, principal, Booker T. Washington high, Houston, Tex.; vice-presidents, Dr. Gore and John F. Potts, director, Avery institute, Charleston, S. C.; secretary-treasurer, L. S. Cozart, president, Barber Scotia college, Concord, N. C.

BUSINESS LEADERS HEAD NAACP XMAS SEAL DRIVE



As the 1950 Christmas Seal Campaign of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People gets under way, key chairmanships in the drive have been undertaken by these three of the nation's business leaders: (l. to r.) Norman O. Houston of Los Angeles, president of the National Negro Insurance Association and of the Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Company, who heads the NAACP seal campaign in the insurance industry; W. D. Morison, Jr., of Detroit, president of the National Association of Real Estate Brokers, chairman of the seal drive in the real estate field; and Horace Sudduth of Cincinnati, president of the National Negro Business League, who is directing sale of the seals in the general business field. The attractive red-and-white seals, which sell for \$1.00 per hundred, may also be purchased from local NAACP branches or from the Association's national office, 20 West 40th Street, N. Y. C.

Belgians Raise "Red Bogey" When Africans Try To Better Conditions

BRUSSELS, Belgium (ANP)— When a downtrodden people begin voicing discontent against inhuman treatment practiced upon them by self-appointed white administrators, immediately the cry goes out that the "Red Menace" has turned the erstwhile victims against their so-called "benefactors."

This situation currently exists throughout the Belgian Congo, particularly in the south.

According to colonial circles here, Communists are expanding their activities in the uranium-producing sector of the Congo, feeding seditious anti-European propaganda to the natives through secret native sects.

The report has it that at Elisabethville in the south of the Congo, selected native Communists have already been designated to sabotage the large uranium mines at Shinkolobwe "at a time considered opportune by the Kremlin." The report also says that 27 natives were sent to Russia in 1949 to take propaganda courses at Lenin university and that a number of them later went to Malaya and Indo-China to take an active part in the organization of an armed revolt.

Temporary chairman, commission on higher education, J. St. Clair Price, dean Howard university, and chairman, commission on secondary education, G. L. Porter, principal, Lincoln high, Tallahassee, Fla.

In addition, it is said that more than 60 natives are expected to leave for the Soviet Union this year as "student agents."

The Rev. S. J. Van Wing, a colonial adviser to the Belgium government and an authority on colonial problems, reported recently on his tour of the Congo last year, that the "attitude of the natives toward Europeans is generally sympathetic and quite different from the attitude of the natives in neighboring African colonies."

However, he said in certain areas, natives have developed a noticeable coldness.

He noted that "it is significant that natives are now no longer content with merely voicing complaints regarding low wages. They are quick to compare their own wages with those drawn by European workers in the Congo."

He suggested that the "best way to fight the subversive propaganda is through reduction of the color bar to a minimum wage and institution of social reform."

OBEY TRAFFIC SIGNS

U. S. High Court Agrees To Hear Groveland Appeal

NEW YORK.— Preparations for appealing the convictions of Samuel Shepherd and Walter Irvin, defendants in the celebrated Groveland case, before the United States Supreme Court, began this week after attorneys for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People received notice that the high tribunal had granted a writ of certiorari on November 27 and would review the case.

Shepherd and Irvin were convicted in September, 1949, along with Charles Greenlee, for the alleged rape of a young Groveland housewife, and their convictions and death sentences were affirmed by the Florida Supreme Court. Since Greenlee was sentenced to life imprisonment, he did not participate in the appeal, because it is believed that reversal of the convictions of Shepherd and Irvin would probably exonerate him.

The NAACP petition for certiorari raised the question of the constitutionality of selecting juries by a system of racial proportional representation, and also asserted that the pre-trial motions for

change of venue and continuance (postponement) should have been granted because of high anti-Negro feeling in Lake County, Florida, at the time of the trials. The alleged rape set off a period of mob violence, home-burning and terror in the area.

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