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Witness Tells Of Columbia Race Riots

CRITERION CLUB TO MEET AT WAYMAN SUNDAY

The Critterion Club members have invited representatives of other women's groups to meet with them at 6:00 P.M. Sunday, April 28th in the Sunday School Room of Wayman A.M.E. Church to launch plans for the "All Organization Tea" directed at obtaining cooperation of social, civic and religious clubs to present to Dayton an outstanding affair. The move is a part of the Critterion Club's program designed to benefit the liberal program of the Church Reports on the success of last year's Tea will be given. Table numbers and invitations will be issued. Twenty-six groups have made reservations for tables. Refreshments will be served and pictures will be made of the meeting. Miss Alexzina A. Gray is president of the Critterions. The All Organization Tea is to be an annual event.

GOLD RUSH LURES SOUTH AFRICA FARMERS

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, Apr. 26 (ANP)—The discovery of a rich vein of gold near Odenaals-Rust in Orange Free State has created all the drama and excitement attached to a gold rush here in the union of South Africa.

First deposits yielded more than 62 ounces of gold per ton as compared with the average yield of a quarter ounce to the ton. Converted into cash 62 ounces means \$2,170 a ton. Lots at Odenaals-Rust which formerly sold for -20 last week could not be purchased for \$4,800.

Speculators teemed into the section. Many farmers, who have just been able to eke out a living from the poor soil now are worth millions of dollars gained from options.

Preliminary observations of miners reveal the new field may be large enough for 10 mines.

Business in Johannesburg is virtually at a standstill as business people, clerks and shop girls join up with the rush brigade to buy the stock of Blinkpoorts on whose property the strike was made. Fortunes were made and lost in minutes as prices fluctuated in \$2 bounds.

The London market also reflected the rush as gold mining shares rose to record highs on the Exchange last Wednesday, increasing the market valuation of seven foremost companies \$50,000,000 in the first hour of trading.

Negro Champs Hope To Keep Dayton Streak Alive Sunday

CLOAKROOM MANAGER, U. S. CAPITOL DEAD

WASHINGTON, Apr. 26, (ANP) — Republican members of the house of representatives are mourning the loss of Benjamin F. Jones who for nearly 40 years had charge of their cloakroom.

Congressman Joseph Martin of Massachusetts announced the death of Mr. Jones to the house Monday. After asking consent to address the body for one minute, he expressed his sorrow, "to be obliged to announce the death of Mr. Benjamin Jones."

After which, Congressman John McCormack, also of Massachusetts, expressed his regret, "to hear the announcement of our late friend." Mr. Martin then asked unanimous consent that any member who wished might extend his remarks on the subject in the Congressional Record. There was no objection.

Said Congressman Earl Michener of Michigan, "his long experience and keen mind made it possible for him to have a general understanding of the house procedure in general. He was always prepared to advise as to what the program of the day would be."

Other congressmen who eulogized the late Mr. Jones included Leslie Arends, Illinois; Ellsworth Buck, New York; Chauncey Reed, Illinois; William A. Pittenger, Minnesota and Charles A. Eaton of New Jersey.

It is remembered by colored news reporters that several years ago, it was he who in telling his experiences as cloakroom manager, informed the press who the "sincere and friendly" members were to Negroes.

Active in church, civic, fraternity and community affairs, the deceased was a member of the Men's club of Metropolitan A.M.E. church, an Elk and one of the founders of the Corinthian lodge, Masons of this city.

He came to Washington nearly 40 years ago from Lovejoy, Ill., his native home at the request of Congressman William Rodenberger during the time Speaker Cannon occupied the chair of the house. The Record carried about two columns concerning his death.

The Cleveland Buckeyes, Negro world champions who dropped only two games out of 14 in Dayton last year, will be facing a new opponent Sunday evening when they tangle with the Chicago Giants at Hudson field.

The Buckeyes won both halves of the Negro American league last year and then went on to their first championship by defeating the Homestead Grays, Negro National league champs in four straight games. Local fans have seen the Clevelanders against all types of opposition but this will be their first glimpse of the Chicago club, although the Windy City team holds the distinction of having broken even in a two-game series played in East Chicago last year.

Manager Ollie McCarthy, of the Chicago team, is eager to meet the 1945 champions since he feels that he has one of the strongest independent outfits in operation. Last year his club won 33 games while losing only 14. The Giants have played them all from the Kansas City Monarchs to the New York Cubans and have a winning edge.

Manager Quincy Troupe of the Buckeyes will have all his regulars ready for action with the exception of third baseman Parnell Woods and centerfielder Sammy Jethroe, who are late returning from the South American Winter league. Such regulars as Archie Ware, Billy Horne, Johnny Cowan, Willie Grace, and Buddy Armour have become popular favorites here.

McCarthy has named either Roosevelt Davis or southpaw Willie Rhodes as his starting hurler with Vann Biggs behind the plate. Lefty Eddie Klep, white semi-pro hurler who is trying for a regular job with the Buckeyes will be Manager Troupe's choice, while he will handle the backstopping job himself.

The Columbia, Tenn., race riots were vividly described last night at the Wayman AME Church by Solomon Blair, Columbia storekeeper and a witness to the rioting.

Blair said he was one of more than 100 Negroes arrested without just cause after the rioting. In relating the story Blair said a Mrs. Gladys Stephenson of Columbia and her World War II veteran son, James, went into a Columbia store to get a radio repaired.

"Mrs. Stephenson had trouble with a salesman in the store named William Fleming. But she finally got the radio.

"When she walked out of the store, Fleming followed her and kicked and slapped her. Her son came to her defense and fought with Fleming."

Blair said after James and his mother were arrested, some of the townspeople "started buying ropes and carrying shotguns."

State troopers arrested 101 Columbia Negroes and placed them in the "city" jail, he said. While in custody they were "packed so we could not sit down." Two men were mysteriously shot and a third was wounded," Blair said.

"State troopers went into our homes and ransacked them. Stores were blasted. We were taken to Nashville, Tenn., for safe keeping, they told us."

Blair said 31 of those arrested are still in "custody," charged with first degree murder.

Blair said, "I don't know of anyone we killed. It was those of us who were arrested that were killed."

The talk was sponsored by the Dayton branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the Montgomery county Civil Liberties union, Waldorf lodge Elks, No. 76, the Dayton Public Service league, the county CIO Industrial council, the Dayton Citizens committee, Dayton locals 801 and 768, United Electrical Workers (CIO), the Dayton NAACP Youth council and the Olympian and Frontiers clubs.

TABERNACLE BAPTIST CHURCH NEWS

The American Woodmen will hold their annual meeting Sunday evening at 8 o'clock at the Tabernacle Baptist Church. Rev. J. Wesley Broadus will preach the sermon. The public is invited to attend this service.

The Adult Men of Tabernacle, under the leadership of Mr. Thomas Lyle and Mr. Timothy Mitchell, will

present the program at the BTU hour Sunday.

The Montgomery County Missionary Union will meet Sunday at 3:30 P.M. at the Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church, Diamond avenue and Irwin street. All members are urged to be present. Mrs. Anna E. Moore is president of the union.