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Conference Material
1938 - 1939



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AND REFER TO

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

WASHINGTON

January 6, 1939

7 1939

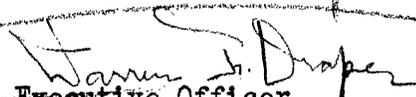
Miss Mary McLeod Bethune,
Director, Division of
Negro Affairs,
National Youth Administration,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Miss Bethune:

Confirming my telephone conversation with your office today, I wish to advise you that at the request of Doctor Parran I will attend your meeting on January 12 at 8:40 p.m., prepared to give the information you request.

For such interest as it may be, I am enclosing a brief biographical statement.

Sincerely yours,


Executive Officer

WFD:MS

Encl.

Dr. Warren F. Draper, Executive Officer and first assistant to the Surgeon General has been a member of the Public Health Service from the time of his graduation from the Harvard Medical School in 1910, and has had a wide experience in most of its activities. He has served in the hospitals, in quarantine and immigration work, in the research laboratory, in epidemic duty, as Ship's Surgeon on the Coast Guard Cutter Bear during one of its Arctic cruises, and in State and county health work.

Prior to his appointment as Executive Officer, Dr. Draper occupied the position of Assistant Surgeon General in charge of Personnel. From 1931 to 1934 he served as State Health Commissioner of Virginia having been loaned for that purpose at the request of the Governor during a period of reorganization of the State Department of Health.

Dr. Draper has represented the Public Health Service in the House of Delegates of the American Medical Association for a number of years. He is a member of the Governing Council of the American Public Health Association and of the Board of Directors of the National Organization of Public Health Nursing. He is Professorial Lecturer on Public Health Administration of the George Washington University School of Medicine.

*Congress National
Youth Council*

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(See Mr. Fortune)

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NYA
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(See Mr. Fortune)

*June 13 -
4 P M*

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State Supervisor of Negro Work
National Youth Administration
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Indianapolis, Indiana

White, Mr. Lorenzo
Hampton Institute
Hampton, Virginia

Welch, Mrs. Daisy E.
National Federation of Colored
Women's Clubs
221 Florida Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Henry, Mr. Joseph F., Jr.
President Maryland Democratic Club
22 St. Paul Street
Baltimore, Maryland

Hilyer, Mrs. Amanda C.
Northwest Citizens Association
1835 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

McKenna, Reverend Horace N.
Director Cardinal Gibbons Institute
Ridge, Maryland

Marshall, Mr. Mortimer M.
279 East Davis Street
Champepper, Virginia

Ferebee, Dr. Dorothy B., Health Director
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority
1809 Second Street, Northwest
Washington, D.C.

Clark, Dr. J. S., President Emeritus
Southern University
Scotlandville, Louisiana

Clark, Mr. Eugene
President Miner Teachers College
Washington, D. C.

Downing, Dean L. K.
School of Engineering
Howard University
Washington, D. C.

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Washington, D. C.

Downing, Dean L. K.
School of Engineering
Howard University
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Division of Vocational Education

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GEO. I. MARTIN, ASST. STATE SUPERVISOR AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION, TIFTON, GEORGIA
T. G. WALTERS, ASST. STATE SUPERVISOR AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION, ATLANTA, GEORGIA
ALVA TABOR, SUPERVISOR AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN NEGRO SCHOOLS, FT. VALLEY, GA.

December 1, 1938

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
Director, Division of Negro Affairs
National Youth Administration
1734 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of and thank you for your letter of November 23 in which an invitation is extended to me to be in attendance at the conference called for the purpose of evaluating the status of Negroes as far as Federal relations are concerned since the last conference and to consider the possible effect of more recent legislation.

You may expect me to be in attendance at this conference.

Following are suggested problems which seem to me to be of importance for consideration by those connected with the Federal Government:

- I. Adequate vocational training and placement opportunities for the In and Out-of-school farm youths.
- II. Expansion of Farm Credit: Farm Security Administration; and National Youth Administration personnels to include increased employment of Negroes in both administrative and supervisory staffs to present, interpret, and promote services of these organizations in relation to needs of Negroes.

Yours very truly,

Alva Tabor

Alva Tabor,
Supervisor Agri'l Ed, in Negro Schools

AT:K

TELEPHONE 4-5565

Pearl Street Neighborhood House

CORNER PEARL & HOPKINS STS.
WATERBURY, CONNECTICUT

MRS. L. T. ALEXANDER, Social Director

Lila Nov. 28
19 38

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
Director, Division of Negro Affairs
National Youth Administration
1734 New York Avenue NW
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

I very much want to be with you in Washington, January 12, 13 and 14, 1939, and can be if transportation and per diem expenses are provided.

An informative and suggestive discussion of the following questions and problems would overcome some of the obstacles which block definite constructive progress in our local Negro community, and would facilitate practical application of Federal laws to improve Negro status throughout the State of Connecticut.

How can we secure:

1. An improved method of that "classification" which assigns Negroes on relief rolls to various W. P. A. and N. Y. A. projects employing white and colored workers?

2. What is the system by which timekeeper, foremen and supervisors are selected on such projects, and what determines their eligibility for wages, if any, and the basis of remuneration?

3. What determines the number and variety of Federal Negro projects in a city or State?

4. Would justice in administration be facilitated by having Negroes on relief projects racially listed in files accessible to government and local Social Service Workers?

5. What are the possibilities for the placement of more, competent Negro Field Workers throughout the State with power to secure action on enacted Federal Laws so that they may improve Negro Housing, Employment and Educational status.

2: Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune

Nov. 28, 1938

6. What are the possibilities for obtaining supplies and work materials for N. Y. A. projects? Are any provided by the government?

7. Is a promotion in "classification" a policy in National Youth Administration by which National Youth project workers showing ability and application over a stated period of time may be given higher rating and paid accordingly?

8. What can we do about the problem of employment for Negro High School graduates, not eligible for N. Y. A., and not college material, in small town communities? How can we salvage their ambition, and continue their vocational education where the few practical facilities for apprenticeship training are virtually "closed doors" for them?

Sincerely yours,

Leila T. Alexander

Leila T. Alexander
Social Director

LTA:w

P.S. The Council meeting stimulated my courage and was helpful and enjoyable in every way. I stayed with Mrs. Norman until Sunday evening.

Yours sincerely,
Leila T. Alexander

MEMORANDUM

December 15, 1938

To: Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune

From: Dutton Ferguson 

Mr. Howard Woodson proposed the following name of a possible delegate to The National Conference on the Problems of the Negro and Negro Youth:

Dean Louis K. Downing,
School of Engineering,
Howard University, and
President of the National
Technical Association.

At this time, I wish to submit the following names of persons who might be invited to the Conference:

Mr. William C. George, Vice Consul
American Legation, Monrovia, Liberia,
now en route home on official leave;
home address: 1419 Q Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Walter Ridley, Director,
Extension Service,
Virginia State College
Petersburg, Va.

Mr. Elwood Chisolm, 1114 Fairmont
Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.
Mr. Chisolm drafted the plan for
reorganization and consolidation
of the Intake Division of the Public
Assistance Division; wrote major re-
ports for the Federal WPA and the
Committee Investigating Relief Con-
ditions in the District of Columbia

Mr. William A. Clark, Director,
School of Education,
Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.

Dr. Alain Leroy Locke,
Department of Philosophy
Howard University

Thank you for the careful consideration of these persons.

DF:H

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THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
NORTH INTERIOR BUILDING

WASHINGTON, D. C.

TELEPHONE: DISTRICT 1820

December 21, 1938

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GEORGE F. ZOOK

DEC 22 1938

Miss Mary McLeod Bethune, Director
Division of Negro Affairs
National Youth Administration
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Bethune:

In the absence of Mr. Reeves I should like to acknowledge your letter of December 20. I am forwarding a copy to Mr. Reeves in Chicago. I am sure that you will hear from him when he returns to the office next week.

Sincerely yours,

Dora F. Calhoun

Dora F. Calhoun
Secretary to Mr. Reeves

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UNITED STATES CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

ADDRESS ONLY
"CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION"
IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO
FILE
AND DATE OF THIS LETTER

December 22, 1938.

r

Miss Mary McLeod Bethune,
Director, Division of Negro Affairs,
National Youth Administration,
1734 New York Avenue, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

L

Dear Miss Bethune:

I have your letter of December 20, 1938, concerning the conference of Negroes to be held on January 12, 13 and 14th.

I am glad to be able to tell you that I will attend your meeting on Friday, January 13th, at 4:15 P.M., at which time I will make a brief talk.

Sincerely yours,


Harry B. Mitchell,
President.

CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

WASHINGTON, D. C.

FILE REFERENCE:

27 1938
December 21, 1938.

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune,
Director, Division of Negro Affairs,
National Youth Administration,
1734 New York Avenue, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

I have your letter of December 20th in which you invite me to speak to the delegates who will attend a conference of negroes representing a cross section of the country to be held January 12 - 14, 1939.

I will be very glad to accept your invitation and unless something unforeseen occurs I will come to the conference at 3:00 P.M. on Thursday afternoon January 12th.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Fechner

ROBERT FECHNER,
Director.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

27 1938

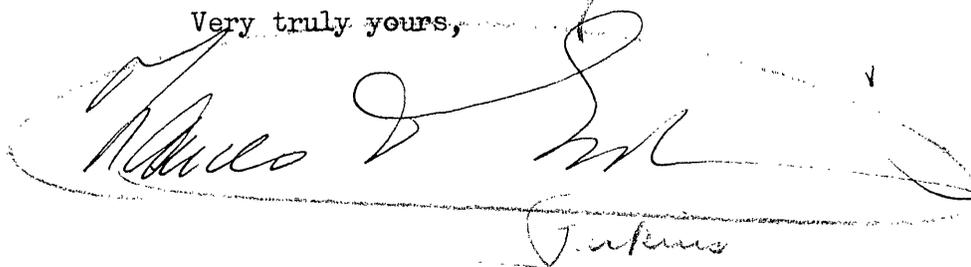
December 22, 1938

Miss Mary McLeod Bethune
Director
Division of Negro Affairs
National Youth Administration
1734 New York Avenue NW
Washington, D. C.

My dear Miss Bethune:

I have your letter of December 20th and
regret to say that it will not be possible for me
to appear at the conference which you are having
due to other long standing and important obligations.

Very truly yours,



Harold I. Smith

L. HOLLINGSWORTH WOOD, CHAIRMAN
ROBERT R. MOTON, VICE-CHAIRMAN

WILLIAM H. BALDWIN, SECRETARY
CHARLES POLETTI, TREASURER

NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE

FOR SOCIAL WORK AMONG NEGROES

TELEPHONE WALNUT 2355

250 AUBURN AVENUE, N. E. ATLANTA, GEORGIA

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JESSE O. THOMAS
SOUTHERN FIELD DIRECTOR

December 27, 1938

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
National Youth Administration
1435 G Street, Northwest
Room 725
Washington, D. C.

Jesse O. Thomas

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

I shall plan to reach Washington Wednesday morning, January 11, as you suggest and identify myself with the Evaluating Committee in the manner indicated.

There is one suggestion I would like to offer for consideration. There are a great many instances where colored people are denied benefits of different measures sponsored by the governments, municipal, state and federal, but who do not know how to effectively seek redress. This, of course, is not only true of colored it is true of white. In consideration of this fact, there are representatives of various departments of the Federal Government represented in every town. There are in addition regional offices. It will not be practicable to have Negroes thus distributed, but at least one field representative of the WPA, the NYA, the Social Security Division and the Wage Hour Bill ought to be assigned to each one of these departments.

Therefore, I should like to suggest that the Conference consider the advisability of

Mrs. Bethune

-2-

12/27/38

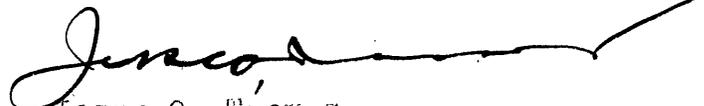
having a person appointed who will stay in the field, making investigations, organizing factual information concerning experiences Negroes are having with these different governmental units. This information, if properly organized, would greatly enhance the welfare fortune of Negroes. This person would not be expected to spend a lot of time in making public addresses -- that would be left to those of you who are Assistant Administrators and in executive positions.

The second thing I would suggest is that this conference consider the whole question of the Negro's approach to the question of graduate training throughout the separate school jurisdiction. My feeling is that in the light of the Supreme Court's decision in connection with the Lloyd Gaines case in St. Louis there will be a great many local efforts on the part of white people to persuade or influence or direct Negro Presidents of State Colleges and perhaps some private institutions to launch a half-baked graduate setup as a means of lulling Negroes to sleep on this question which is most vital at the moment.

I am not attempting to suggest a program here, I am simply suggesting we ought to leave your Conference in a collective mind on the subject.

Looking forward to seeing you with a great deal of interest and of being baptized with the benevolence of your graces, I am

Very truly yours,



Jesse O. Thomas,
Southern Field Director.

JOL:kw

Conference material

TO: Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Director
Division of Negro Affairs

FROM: Edward R Rodriguez
~~Florida Youth Administration~~

SUBJECT: Suggested Points That Might Be Brought to the Attention
of Those Connected with our Federal Government.

1. Increased Opportunity for Employment and Economic Security

a. Opportunity in the several Federal Emergency Work Programs:

Our committee felt that there was one particular project under the Non-Manual Program in which Negroes in the state of Florida have received no consideration; and that is the Federal Theatre Players.

We should like to increase our opportunity along this line for assistance to those Negroes among us who have had some experience in the field of the Theatre and Drama.

c. Government aid in the placement of Negroes in private employment:

The state of Florida suffers a great disadvantage in that the State Reemployment Service has been discontinued, due to the fact that the Government did not meet the terms of the Federal Government in the appointment of a Director of this division. We are greatly handicapped along this line.

e. Civil Service-equal opportunity in appointment; promotions and appeals:

Our committee surveyed the state. As far as Negro postal employes are concerned, we note that there are three cities in the state of appreciable size and population where there are no Negroes in the postal service: - Miami, West Palm Beach and Orlando, Florida.

f. Appointment to federal posts to present and interpret the needs of Negroes in formulation of administrative policies:

We feel very definitely the need of some Negro to serve as coordinator and interpreter for the WPA and the Negro constituency of the state.

g. Federal stimulation of Cooperatives and Credit Unions:

This program is beginning to touch a few of our farmers in certain sections. However, the fact has been called to our attention that in west Florida where tobacco thrives that Negro farmers are almost in a state of peonage. They can not produce tobacco on their own lands. There is something of a terrible system existing along this line for our people.

i. Social Security:

The committee feels very definitely the need of Negro representation on the advisory committee and to share, in some part, in the personnel direction of this program. There have been instances indicated where the Old Age Assistance program was administered to Negroes on a minimum basis; that is, they are always given the smallest amount under the Old Age Security. There seems to be a lot that can be done along this line to help get for our people, not only along Old Age Assistance, but help to widowed mother and the Blind, in this phase of the program.

2. Adequate Educational and Recreational Opportunity

Federal aid and its equitable distribution

(We wish to call particular attention to -

e. School buildings

Duval County is a good example of the retarded condition of our public school facilities, where there are being operated double and triple sessions in many of the schools. The Bond Issue was floated twice and failed, because the set up did not insure the Negro an equitable distribution of Federal funds on the proposed building program.

f. Library facilities:

I know of only one little library, constructed in Lakeland, which was a part of their recreation center there. No thought has been given to this part of the program for the development of our people.

3. Improved Health and Housing Conditions:

We can speak well for the integration of the Negro into this part of the program: -

a. Nursing, medical service and health education

b. Hospitalizations (The TB Sanitarium in Orlando, a

PWA grant;

new hospital in Tampa - dedicatory program enclosed)

c. Low-cost Housing

These things speak very well for our state. However, the committee felt that in the expenditure of funds for slum clearance that a great deal can be done along this line for the eradication of slums for our people in the state.

There is another problem which our committee thought should receive some consideration as far as our people are concerned, and that is the FHA program. This program needs very definite investigation in the state of Florida. In Jacksonville they so zone off Negro property that it becomes impossible for people who would be in position to take advantage of the loan to meet their requirements.

4. Securing of Life and Equal Protection under the Law

a. Protection from mob violence:

I know you recall, with loathe, the lynching which occurred up at Tallahassee right in the door of the Capitol, when two Negroes were taken from the jail seven miles out of town and lynched with no intervention at all from the Governor of the state, nor officials.

b. Free and equal access to all places and accommodations:

Report has come to us that in the selection of the jury in our Federal courts here that even though Negroes are invited into service, and report to serve, that invariably they never enter the jury room to decide with the other jurymen.

c. Free use of the franchise:

It stands as the ever-present Rock of Gibraltar, but I feel this is a problem we must continue to work on and battle for.

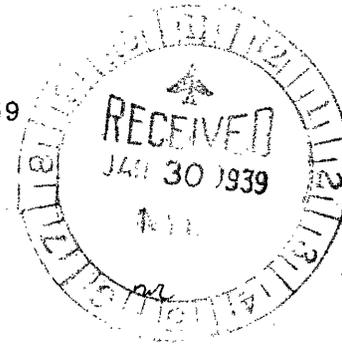
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200 WEST 135TH STREET
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~~REGISTRATION~~
Audubon 3-3900

January 28, 1939



Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
Works Progress Administration
1734 New York Avenue, N.W.,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

Thank you very much for
the extra copies of the program and also
of the speeches.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carita V. Roane". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Carita V. Roane
Manager

CVR:cmj.

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February 8, 1939

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

I have gone over the report of the Committee on Civil Liberties of the National Conference on Problems of the Negro and Negro Youth and find that it is correct except for the change which I have made on page 3 as to the sponsors of the Federal Aid to Education Bill in the 76th Congress.

Ever sincerely,

Walter
Secretary

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
1734 Nww York Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

WW/RR

WELFARE COUNCIL
OF NEW YORK CITY

44 EAST 23RD STREET

ALGONQUIN 4-5500

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December 21, 1938

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CHAIRMAN, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

HOMER FOLKS

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
National Youth Administration
1734 New York Avenue NW
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

I wired you today accepting your invitation to take part in the conference on "Problems of the Negro and Negro Youth" on January 12, 13 and 14. This letter is to confirm that wire and to offer a few brief suggestions for whatever they are worth.

(1) That status of Negroes in the maritime industry seems to be hanging in the balance. The New York and National Urban Leagues have recently conferred at length with groups of Negro seamen who are concerned about the racial policies of important shipping companies as a part of their fight against the maritime union and apparent support by the Maritime Commission of the policies hostile toward Negroes.

I cannot think of a better forum for a discussion of federal responsibility in this matter than at your conference. Mr. T. Arnold Hill has information on this, as well as Mr. Charles Collier, Industrial Secretary of the New York Urban League.

(2) The report of the Social Security's Advisory Council which recommends the inclusion of ten million domestic and farm workers in the benefits of unemployment insurance beginning 1940 is fraught with so much importance to Negro workers that I feel the conference should devote a great deal of attention to discussing the problem and planning for support of this recommendation in the coming congressional session.

Yours very truly,


Lester B. Granger, Secretary
Standing Committee on Negro Welfare

LBG:g

Washington Tribune

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE WASHINGTON TRIBUNE PUB. CO., INC.

920 U STREET, N.W.

PHONE POTOMAC 1667

WASHINGTON D.C

VOICE OF 162,000 NEGROES IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL

7 January, 1939

Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, Director,
Division of Negro Affairs,
National Youth Administration,
Washington, D. C.

My Dear Madam:

This letter comes in regard to the conference on Negro problems slated to be carried on this month under the supervision of the National Youth Administration.

Among the issues which I hope will be discussed during the sessions is the ambitious program calling for expansion of the aeronautical resources of the nation. There have been reported in the white press numerous plans for the training of pilots and mechanics and the construction of a huge number of aircraft.

Undoubtedly it would be to the advantage of the race that persons of color be offered the opportunity to participate in this program.

Need I make mention of the so obvious implications of racial progress that are inherent to this plan. The raising of prestige, economic emancipation, and the improvement of educational opportunities for Negroes are among them.

I am enclosing clippings of a column, "Aviation and the Negro", authored by me, and published for the past several weeks in the Washington Tribune. I trust that from them a more clear idea of the advantages offered by aviation to the Negro might be gained.

Should you be interested in this aviation program, or should you like further information of one youth's ideas of its potentialities, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Very respectfully yours,

Benjamin L. Hunton

A. W. BRYAN, VICE PRESIDENT
ATLANTA, GA.

L. M. ANDERSON, SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

G. N. T. GRAY, WELFARE DIRECTOR
WASHINGTON, D. C.

R. E. L. HUTTON, TREASURER
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

P. R. HINES, EDITOR
CHICAGO, ILL.

" Ad mortem fidelis "

National Alliance of Postal Employees

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
L. F. FORD
4419 ALDINE AVENUE
SAINT LOUIS, MO.

November 28, 1938

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Director
Division of Negro Affairs
National Youth Administration
1734 New York Ave. NW.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

Thank you for the very cordial invitation to be present and participate in the coming National Conference on the Problems of the Negro and Negro Youth, to be held at Washington, January 12, 13 and 14.

The importance of these problems, and the fact that the Government is making an earnest effort to aid in their adjustment, warrant a quick acceptance of this invitation, therefore, you can depend on me being present.

There are several immediate problems facing colored workers in the Government Service, particularly those in the Postal Service and it is my belief that the following matters should be brought to the attention of the Conference:

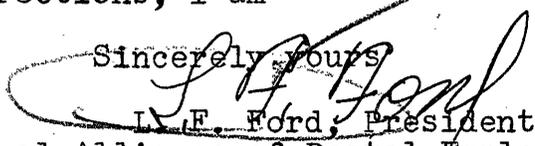
The photographic system of identification should be eliminated and the finger print system substituted therefor.

The present method of making promotions to the supervisory force and to preferred assignments should give way to a strict seniority rule.

The present method which gives the appointing officer discretionary power to select for appointment anyone of the three highest eligibles on the list has militated against Negro men and Negro women. Remedial legislation appears to be our only hope and. Bills to this effect were introduced in the last Congress and we are hoping to have similar measures sponsored in the coming Congress

Awaiting your further directions, I am

Sincerely yours,


L. F. Ford, President

National Alliance of Postal Employees.

EDGAR A. LOVE, Dist. Supt.
1848 THIRD STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Methodist Episcopal Church
Washington Conference
Washington District

December 10, 1938

Mrs. Mary McCleod Bethune
1734 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

My dear Dr. Bethune:

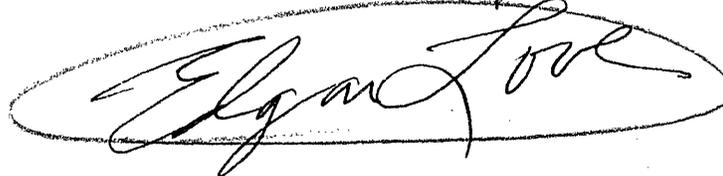
Thank you very much for your invitation to attend the proposed Conference for January, 12, 13, 14, 1939, which I accept, considering it a privilege to serve with you in helping to better the condition of our group in the United States.

You requested suggestions as to problems of importance which should be brought to the attention of those connected with our Federal Government. And I'm offering the following:

1. Attention should be directed toward the seeming lack of information on the part of Negro farmers relative to the help they might receive from the Federal Government in handling the mortgages on their farms.
2. The seeming discrimination in the Departments against Negroes certified by the Civil Service Commission.
3. The discrimination against Negroes in white collar jobs.

Remembering as I do the splendid Conference of two years ago, with its conscientious and unbiased findings, I am looking forward to this Conference with keen anticipation, believing that even more effective results will be obtained under your courageous and efficient leadership.

Sincerely yours,





DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON

DEC 27 1938
m

December 22, 1938.

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
Director, Division of Negro Affairs
National Youth Administration
1734 New York Avenue
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

I am sorry that I must decline the invitation extended to me in your letter of December 20, to address the delegates to the conference on Negro affairs in January.

In view of the fact that I have been out of the city so much of the time this fall and in view of the fact also that Congress will be in the early days of its session at the time of your meeting, I feel that I can not make any commitments to speak to any group.

With much appreciation of your interest in having written, and with good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

H. R. Wallace

Secretary.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF EDUCATION
WASHINGTON

December 22, 1938

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
Director, Division of Negro Affairs
National Youth Administration
1734 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

It is probable that I shall be out of the city on the dates set for your conference in January. However, I have talked with Dr. Caliver and know that he expects to attend the conference and represent the Office of Education. I suggest, therefore, that you list him on your program to represent us.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Cordially yours,


Commissioner

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FARM SECURITY ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

December 27, 1938.

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Director
Division of Negro Affairs
National Youth Administration
1734 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

I greatly appreciate your letter of December 20 inviting me to speak on January 13 at the Session of your conferences devoted to Social Security and Job Opportunities.

You know, of course, that it would be a pleasure for me to meet with this group. Unfortunately, however, I have another commitment which will take me out of the City on that date. If it should develop at the last moment that I do not have to leave town, I will get in touch with you by telephone.

With kindest personal regards and the Season's best wishes,
I am

Sincerely,



Administrator

FLOYD W. REEVES, CHAIRMAN
DIRECTOR OF STUDIES

W. ROWLAND ALLEN
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MORDECAI EZEKIEL

PAUL T. DAVID, SECRETARY
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF STUDIES

THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
NORTH INTERIOR BUILDING

WASHINGTON, D. C.

TELEPHONE: DISTRICT 1820

December 30, 1938

GEORGE L. GOOGE
FRANK P. GRAHAM
LUTHER GULICK
REV. GEORGE JOHNSON
CHARLES H. JUDD
THOMAS KENNEDY
KATHARINE F. LENROOT
A. B. MOEHLMAN
HENRY C. TAYLOR
T. J. THOMAS
JOHN H. ZINK
GEORGE F. ZOOK

Miss Mary McLeod Bethune, Director
Division of Negro Affairs
National Youth Administration
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Bethune:

In reply to your letter of December 20, I shall be very glad to speak at your session on Education and Recreation which you are holding on Friday, January 13, in the departmental auditorium.

Sincerely yours,



Floyd W. Reeves
Chairman

*H.M.M.
12/17/39*

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

WALKER-JOHNSON BUILDING
1734 NEW YORK AVENUE NW.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

HARRY L. HOPKINS
ADMINISTRATOR

December 30, 1938

1939
m

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
Director, Division of Negro Affairs
National Youth Administration
1734 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter inviting me to attend the conference of Negroes to be held at the Department of Labor on January 12, 1939.

If my engagements will permit, I shall be very glad to be present. However, due to the pressure of the duties of the new position which I have just assumed, I regret that it is not possible to give a definite reply at this time.

Sincerely yours,

V. B. Starnington
Administrator

PHONE POTOMAC 4372

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

A. PHILIP RANDOLPH
PRESIDENT

JOHN P. DAVIS
SECRETARY

U. SIMPSON TATE
TREASURER

NATIONAL OFFICE
717 FLORIDA AVENUE, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

December 21, 1938

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
National Youth Administration
Washington
D C

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

Enclosed is a rough draft of a Legislative Letter to be sent to the members of the coming session of Congress. It is being sent out today to all members of our national board. After corrections it will be printed and widely circulated.

Our approach in this letter is - as you can see not antagonistic to the administration. We are critical of the farm program. But our main purpose is to rally a large block of Negro public opinion to prevent a sabotage of the President's plans in the coming session of Congress.

I send you the letter because I believe it contains the major legislative matters which should have the attention of all of us at this time. I will appreciate any suggestions on it which you may find the time to give me.

Cordially yours,

John P. Davis

John P. Davis
National Secretary

Suggestions

jpd:vs
Enclosure

Acknowledge
Return for conference folder
will gather up

Now is the time to close ranks for freedom and equality. Let us unite the Negro organizations and the friends of Negro freedom on a program for security and manhood rights for the Negroes in America.

WASHINGTON WELFARE ASSOCIATION, INCORPORATED

Operating

SOUTHEAST HOUSE

324 VIRGINIA AVENUE, SOUTHEAST
WASHINGTON, DISTRICT of COLUMBIA

TELEPHONE ATlantic 9222

December 15, 1938

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Director
Division of Negro Affairs
National Youth Administration
1734 New York Avenue, Northwest
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

Thanks to you for the invitation to attend the conference called by you on the Problems of the Negro and Negro Youth. You may count on my being in attendance. I am looking forward to it with great anticipation.

Since you asked for suggestions, may I drop this thought, that the subject cannot be fully discussed unless it touches on "Planning for Adult Life." Much of the preliminary work for creative living in adulthood is done while we are yet youths. Thus, we as leaders of youths need to analyze more fully:

1. CREATIVE LIVING in its different aspects
2. To ask ourselves what is the responsibility of leaders of youth in this regard
3. What are we going to do about it?

Perhaps this quotation from Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler will give a better idea of what I am driving at - "The right balance between work and leisure, the development of those wants which increase the value of work and of those tastes which increase the value of leisure, are at the bottom of the problem of human education."

May your efforts be crowned with abundant success.

Sincerely yours,



Mae C. Hawes,

MEMBER OF WASHINGTON COMMUNITY CHEST.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

DEC 31 1938

December 30, 1938

Miss Mary McLeod Bethune
Director
Division Negro Affairs
National Youth Administration
1734 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

My dear Miss Bethune:

I have your letter of December 29th.

Mr. Lawrence Oxley will represent the
Department at your conference. He is being ad-
vised of this designation.

Very truly yours,

James G. McLaughlin

McL

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
UNITED STATES HOUSING AUTHORITY
WASHINGTON

*Speaking
Invitation*

January 4, 1939

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

Permit me to acknowledge your letter of December 22 and your kind invitation to speak on Thursday evening January 12 at the National Conference on the Problems of the Negro and Negro Youth. It will be a pleasure for me to participate in your program and to join you Thursday evening.

Permit me to assure you of my wholehearted cooperation and interest in this Conference.

Faithfully yours,

Nathan Straus
NATHAN STRAUS,
Administrator.

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune,
Director,
Division of Negro Affairs,
1435 G Street, Northwest,
Washington, D. C.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE
ADMINISTRATOR

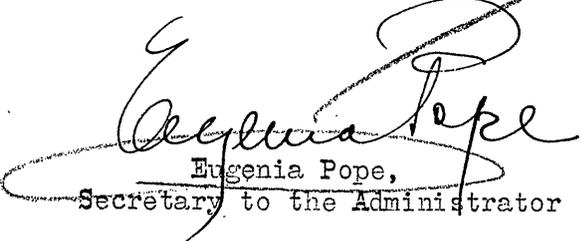
December 28, 1938

Miss Mary McLeod Bethune, Director
Division of Negro Affairs
National Youth Administration
1734 New York Avenue
Washington, D.C.

My dear Miss Bethune:

This is to acknowledge your letter of
December 20th. Mr. Andrews will be happy to accept
your invitation to appear before the conference of
negroes on Friday, January 13th at 3:15 P.M.

Very truly yours,


Eugenia Pope,
Secretary to the Administrator

Edwin R. Embree
President

Margaret S. Simon
Secretary

D. A. Elvidge
Comptroller

Julius Rosenwald Fund

4901 Ellis Avenue
CHICAGO

*Speaking
Invitation*

J. C. Dixon
Director for Rural Education

M. O. Bousfield, M.D.
Director for Negro Health

George M. Reynolds
Director for Fellowships

January 3, 1939

Dear Mrs. Bethune: I am very sorry that it
will not be possible for
me to attend the conference on Negro youth which
you are calling for January 12 to 14. If it is
any comfort to you, I hope to be spending those
days in other efforts in behalf of Negro youth in
Alabama.

Very truly yours,

ERE:JW

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
National Youth Administration
1734 New York Avenue N. W.
Washington, D. C.

SOUTHERN EDUCATION FOUNDATION, INC.

*Spasa King
Invitation*

1867—George Peabody Fund

1882—John F. Slater Fund

1907—Anna T. Jeanes Fund

1938—Virginia Randolph Fund

Office of the President
726 Jackson Place, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

January 3, 1939

President
ARTHUR D. WRIGHT
Chairman of the Board
ARTHUR W. PAGE
Secretary of the Board
EMMETT J. SCOTT

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
National Youth Administration
1734 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

I have your letter of December 30 extending to me an invitation to join in your conference on January the 12th, 13th, and 14th concerning the problems of the Negro and Negro youth.

Most unfortunately, our Foundation's annual meeting occurs on January 12th and the annual meeting of our Board of Directors on January the 13th, so that it will be impossible for me to be with you on either of those days, but I do hope to be able to join you on Saturday morning, the 14th, for the wind-up of your conference.

I appreciate very much being included in this group and only wish that it were possible for me to sit through all of the sessions.

With best wishes, and looking forward to seeing you on the 14th, I am

Sincerely yours,

Arthur D. Wright

ADW/B

HAMPTON INSTITUTE
HAMPTON, VIRGINIA

ARTHUR HOWE, President
ROBERT OGDEN PURVES, Treasurer
WILLIAM H. SCOVILLE, Secretary

OFFICE OF EXTENSION SERVICE
William M. Cooper, Director
Bessie R. Jones, Associate Director

January 6, 1939

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
National Youth Administration
1734 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

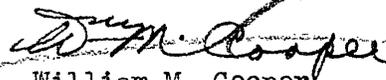
My dear Mrs. Bethune:

In planning for the improvement of NYA work in Virginia, we are anxious to know what salaries are being paid Negro supervisors in other states, either on part-time or on full-time basis. It is our feeling that Virginia would not like to do less than any other state if she knew what was being done. Any help you can give in this direction will be greatly appreciated.

I expect to attend your conference January 12 to 14, and you may count on my cooperation in making it a success.

Accept my best wishes for a happy, prosperous New Year.

Faithfully yours,



William M. Cooper
Director of Extension

WMC:Y

GENERAL EDUCATION BOARD

FOUNDED BY JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER 1902
(INCORPORATED 1903)

49 WEST 49th STREET, NEW YORK

*Speaking
Engagements*

SOUTHERN EDUCATION
ALBERT R. MANN, DIRECTOR
JACKSON DAVIS, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
LEO M. FAVROT, FIELD AGENT

January 4, 1939

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

I appreciate your desire to have me attend the conference on problems of the negro and negro youth in Washington, January 12 - 14. Unfortunately an engagement in Louisville, Kentucky at that time will prevent my being with you.

Thanking you for your letter and regretting my inability to attend your conference.

Sincerely yours,

Jackson Davis

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Director
Division of Negro Affairs
National Youth Administration
1734 New York Avenue N.W.
Washington, D. C.

JD:RTH



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

JAN -4 1939

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune,
Director, Division of Negro Affairs,
National Youth Administration,
Room 725-B, Washington Building,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

I regret very much that the pressure of business makes it impossible for me to accept your invitation to address the second conference on the Problems of Negro and Negro Youth. Such a conference as this, where Negro leaders come together and discuss the problem of the integration of the Negro into the program of the Federal Government, is of inestimable value. Especially is this so at this time. A conference of this nature focuses attention on the fact that in order for democratic forms of government to continue to exist in this world of dictatorships, it is necessary not only to protect the rights and privileges of minority groups but also allow and require minorities to share the responsibilities of maintaining that democracy. Your meeting here is a manifestation of your desire to undertake these grave responsibilities.

I wish you the best of success at this conference.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary of the Interior.



THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE
WASHINGTON

JAN 3 1939

Speaking Engagements

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune,
Director, Division of Negro Affairs,
National Youth Administration,
1734 New York Avenue, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

Thank you for your cordial invitation to speak at the opening session of your conference on January twelfth.

I regret that the extremely heavy pressure of official duties prevents my taking on any additional speaking engagements right at this time. I appreciate your invitation and hope that you will have a very successful meeting.

Very sincerely yours,


Secretary of Commerce.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

December 23, 1938

MEMORANDUM for Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
Director, Negro Affairs Division
National Youth Administration

I am sending you herewith a statement
on the activities of this Department as they
relate to the specific recommendations of the
last conference.


W. J. Trent, jr.,
Adviser on Negro Affairs

OFFICE OF ADVISER ON NEGRO AFFAIRS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

The office of Adviser on Negro Affairs was created by the Secretary of the Interior, Harold L. Ickes, within a few months after the advent of the New Deal. It came into being as the first sign of recognition of the fact that there is a Negro problem deserving of official notice and treatment.

This office is concerned primarily with securing maximum Negro participation in the programs under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior and the Public Works Administration. This involves integration of Negroes into the activities conducted by these two governmental agencies, employment of Negroes on projects financed by the Department of the Interior and PWA, and the direct employment of Negroes by these agencies.

In the Department of the Interior personnel problems of Negro employees and the participation of Negroes in all phases of the programs of the of the various divisions comprise a large part of the work of the office. In addition to activity in connection with the original placement of the workers, persons who seek to improve their status come in for consultation. Conferences are held with department executives seeking information and advice on Negro personnel problems. In these conferences complaints, requests and suggestions from Negroes in the Department are submitted to executives with recommendations. This phase of the work is primarily local in character; however, other activities are national in scope due to the widespread nature of the functions of some of the divisions. Two illustrations of this long-range program are the Recreational Division of the National Park Service and the

program of the Bureau of Reclamation.

The National Park Service has embarked on a program of organized camping for the underprivileged. With full realization that any such program must of necessity include Negroes in the South and Southeast, Negro areas were designated upon the recommendation of the office. As a consequence, a number of these organized camps have been made available to Negroes in several Southern states. In the State of Washington, the Bureau of Reclamation is building the Grand Coulee Dam. It was through the interest of this office that Negroes were first employed on this gigantic structure. Since that time, hundreds of Negroes have secured work there in various capacities.

The other phase of the activities of the office is concerned with the program of the Public Works Administration. In the Public Works Administration, in addition to the personnel work, there has been a great deal of cooperation with groups of Negroes in various communities throughout the country in several aspects of the program as it affects them. Groups have been advised of the proper procedure to use in presenting their institutional and community needs to the proper local governmental authorities. After the PWA grants had been made, then it became the concern of the office to advise local groups how they might go about securing full participation of Negro labor on these projects. The very nature of the PWA grants has necessitated local action with the Advice on Negro Affairs in a consultative and advisory capacity.

Before the creation of the United States Housing Authority, all federal low-rent housing was administered under the PWA. Full participation of Negroes in all phases of this program was secured from the beginning.

This office is concluding a half-million dollar survey of the training and employment of Negro white-collar and skilled workers. Two reports of this survey have been prepared; Volume I, containing statistical information about the urban Negro worker was released in June of this year, and Volume II is now at the Government Printing Office. In the meantime 25 WPA workers are at work compiling data that will be used in the third volume of the series. Already the interest shown in these studies by social workers, colleges, and persons interested in labor and racial problems, has proved the project to have been fully worthwhile.

These activities merely illustrate the wide range of activities that are undertaken by the office of the Adviser on Negro Affairs. Every effort is continually being made to secure full integration of the Negro in all of the activities of the New Deal as they affect the Department of the Interior and associated agencies.

SECOND NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PROBLEMS OF THE NEGRO AND NEGRO YOUTH

P R O G R A M

Dates: January 12, 13 and 14, 1939

Place: Conference Rooms A, B and C
and Departmental Auditorium
adjacent to Department of Labor

Registration 8 to 9 A.M.
Review of Exhibits 9 to 9:55 A.M.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 1939

- Morning Session 10 to 1 P.M.

Statement of Purpose and Procedure: Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
Director, Division of Negro Affairs, NYA and Chairman
of the Conference 10:00 A.M.

Opening: Mr. Aubrey Williams, Administrator, NYA 10:05 A.M.

Greetings: Colonel F. C. Harrington, Administrator, WPA 10:25 A.M.

Miss Katherine F. Leacock, Chief, Children's
Bureau, Department of Labor 10:35 A.M.

Lieut. Lawrence A. Oxley, representing the
Honorable Frances Perkins, Secretary of Labor 10:45 A.M.

Evaluation Reports 11 A.M. to 1 P.M.

Health and Housing Dr. M. O. Eousfield

Civil Liberties Mr. Walter White

Employment and Economic
Security Mr. Lester Granger

Education Mr. John W. Davis

Luncheon, Cafeteria, Department of Labor 1:30 to 2:30 P.M.

Afternoon Session 2:30 to 5:30 P.M.

Problem #1: Youth and Its Problems

Mr. Aubrey Williams, Administrator, NYA 2:30 P.M.

Guest Speaker: Mr. Robert Fechner, Director CCC 2:45 P.M.

Youth Panel Discussion led by Mrs. Juanita Jackson Mitchell,
Chairman; Mr. Edward Strong; Miss Pauline Redmond;
Stanley Jackson and John Doggett 3 to 4:00 P.M.

Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt 4:00 P.M.

Dinner and Recreation 5:30 to 7:00 P.M.

Organization of Committees 7:00 to 8:00 P.M.

Evening Session 8 to 10 P.M.

Problem #2: Health and Housing

- Guest Speakers: Mr. Nathan Strauss, Administrator
United States Housing Authority 8:05 P.M.
- Dr. Warren F. Draper, Executive Officer
United States Public Health Service 8:30 P.M.
- Presentations: Dr. John B. West, Director Central Harlem
Health Center, New York City, on Health 8:50 P.M.
- Mr. Robert R. Taylor, Manager, Michigan
Boulevard Garden Apts., Chicago, on Housing 9:10 P.M.
- Discussion: Dr. Carl G. Roberts, Health - Chicago 9:30 P.M.
- Mrs. Lella T. Alexander, Director Pearl Street
Community House, Waterbury, Connecticut -Housing 9:50 P.M.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13, 1939

Morning Session

10 A.M. to 1 P.M.

Problem #3: Education and Recreation

- Guest Speakers: Mr. J. O. Wright, Assistant Commissioner
for Vocational Education 10:05 A.M.
- Dr. Ambrose Caliver, Specialist in Negro
Education, Office of Education, representing
Dr. J. W. Stuebker, Commissioner of Education 10:25 A.M.
- Mr. Floyd Reeves, Chairman of the National
Advisory Committee on Education 10:40 A.M.
- Presentations: Education - Mr. Doxey A. Wilkerson,
Howard University 11:00 A.M.
- Recreation - Mr. Ernest T. Atwell, National
Recreation Association 11:15 A.M.
- Discussion: Mr. H. Council Trenholm, President
Alabama State Teachers College 11:30 A.M.

Problem #4: Civil Liberties and Political Suffrage

- Guest Speakers: The Honorable Ramsey Black, Third Assistant
Postmaster General, representing the Honorable
Postmaster General, James A. Farley 11:45 A.M.
- The Honorable Robert H. Jackson, The
Solicitor General 12:00 Noon

Friday (continued)

Presentations: Dr. James M. Nabrit, Jr. Howard University 12:15 A.M.
Discussion: Mr. Raymond Alexander, Attorney, Philadelphia 12:30 P.M.
Luncheon, Cafeteria, Department of Labor 1:30 to 2:30 P.M.
Afternoon Session 2:30 to 5:30 P.M.

Problem #5: Social and Economic Security (Employment and Job Opportunities)

Guest Speakers: Mr. Elmer Andrews, Administrator Wages and Hours Division 2:30 P.M.
W. Frank Persons, Director USES 2:40 P.M.
Mr. Arthur Altmeyer, Chairman Social Security Board or representative 2:50 P.M.
Presentation: Mr. John P. Davis, Secretary National Negro Congress 3:00 P.M.
Discussion: Mr. Forrester B. Washington, Director Atlanta School of Social Work 3:15 P.M.

Problem #6: Farm Tenancy

Guest Speakers: Dr. Will W. Alexander, Administrator Farm Security Administration 3:45 P.M.
Presentation and Discussion: Dr. Charles S. Johnson, Member Farm Tenancy Commission 4:00 P.M.

Problem #7: Public Employment (Civil and non-Civil Service)

Guest Speaker: The Honorable Harry B. Mitchell, President Civil Service Commission 4:30 P.M.
Presentation: Mr. Charles Houston, Attorney, NAACP 4:45 P.M.
Discussion: Mr. Lafayette Ford, President National Alliance of Postal Employees 5:00 P.M.
Dinner and Recreation 5:30 to 7 P.M.
Committee Hearings 7 to 8 P.M.
Evening Session 8 to 10 P.M.

Moving Pictures in Departmental Auditorium - Open to Public

Committee Meetings

SATURDAY January 14, 1939

10 A.M. to 1 P.M.

Reports

1. Civil Liberties - Political Suffrage
2. Public Employment, Civil and non-Civil Service
3. Education and Recreation
4. Social and Economic Security
5. Health and Housing
6. Youth and Its Problems
7. Farm Tenancy

Recommendations

Walter White
Charles Houston
John W. Davis
Lester Granger
M. O. Bousfield
Juanita Mitchell
Charles S. Johnson

SECOND NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE PROBLEMS OF THE NEGRO AND NEGRO YOUTH

Departmental Auditorium

January 12, 13 and 14, 1939

COMMITTEE ON PUBLICITY, EXHIBITS AND MOTION PICTURES

Mrs. Constance Daniels
Mr. Henry Lee Moon

Mr. Louis Lautier
Mr. Harper Fortune

Mr. Dutton Ferguson,
Chairman

Dr. Robert C. Weaver,
Chairman Ex Officio

The duty of this Committee of the National Conference shall be to prepare official press releases for distribution to daily and weekly newspapers; to prepare and issue official statements or bulletins for public information; to arrange for the taking of official photographs; to arrange for and supervise the erection of exhibit units of government agencies participating in this phase of the Conference, and to secure certain government films for public showing during the Conference.

Press Releases and Photographs

A. Supervision: Mr. Louis Lautier (National 0185, Ex. 599)

B. Method of Clearance: Jointly by Committee members. Official releases will be prepared daily.

Censoring of Conference stories written by newspaper reporters will be limited only to cases of editorial bias or gross mis-statement of facts.

C. Method of Distribution: Through WPA NP and NIL lists; direct reporters.

D. Photos of Conference leaders, special guest speakers. Mr. Lautier will direct the taking of photos by Government and photographers representing newspapers. All suggestions will be referred to him.

EXHIBITS:

Tentative List of Federal Government Agencies planning Exhibits for the Conference:

Department of Labor
U. S. Public Health Service
Farm Security Administration
U. S. Housing Authority
Social Security
Department of Education, Dept. of Interior
Office of Adviser, Negro Affairs, Dept. of Interior
Civilian Conservation Corps
National Youth Administration
Works Progress Administration

- A. Supervision: Mr. Dutton Ferguson (District 2310, Ex. 245)
- B. Space provided: Committee Room A (32' x 24'); Meeting Room (57' x 32'); Committee Room C (24' x 24'). These rooms will be available on January 12, 13, and 14. The Auditorium will be available on January 13 from 8:00 A. M. to 12 P. M., and on January 14 from 8:00 A. M. to 5:00 P. M. The large meeting room is provided for NYA Standard Exhibit Units, January 12, 13, and 14. The Auditorium is provided for other exhibits January 13 and 14.
- C. Federal Agency spot maps showing the participation of the Negro in various government programs will also be shown at the Conference.

It is suggested that an extra half hour be given for a close study of the exhibit on Friday, January 13, from 1:30 to 2:00 P. M.

MOTION PICTURES

- A. Supervision: Mr. Harper Fortune (National 6550)
- B. Approved list of Motion pictures:
1. The NYA Resident Training Project at Wilberforce University
 2. "Let My People Live" - an all-Negro film released by the Tuberculosis Association
 3. "The Negro Farmer" - released by the Department of Agriculture
 4. "We Work Again" - A WPA film
 5. "Three Counties Against Syphilis" - released by the USPHS

These pictures are to be run for public showing on Friday, January 13, in the Departmental Auditorium at 8:00 P. M. A test run of these films is required on January 9.

Mr. A. W. Cline, Group Superintendent, of the Labor, Commerce and Interstate Commerce Departments, Room 1040, Department of Commerce, has full charge of all matters related to exhibits and motion pictures. He can be reached at District 2200, Branch 586 or 587. Mrs. Margaret Klein, Chief, Division of Exhibits and Displays, Labor Department, is cooperating with the phases of the National Conference of interest to her Division.

AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION FOR THE SECOND NATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON THE PROBLEMS OF THE NEGRO AND NEGRO YOUTH

A. SCOPE

The Conference will be limited in its scope to a formulation of objectives and policies which can be accomplished in whole or in part by action of the Executive and Legislative branches of the Federal Government.

B. AIM AND OBJECTIVE

The Aim and Objective of this conference will be to evaluate the recommendations of the last conference and to make new recommendations in light of what has been passed in the way of new legislation since the last conference.

To propose a set of recommendations to the Executive and Legislative branches of the Federal Government including immediate practical steps to be taken and long-time policies in achieving these ends.

C. AGENDA

The problems of the conference have been divided into the following fields:

1. Social and Economic Security
Job Security and Employment Opportunities

National Labor Relations
National Maritime Act
Wagner-Peyser Act - U.S. Employment Service
Social Security Act
Fair Labor Standards, Act of 1938
National Work Relief Act

2. Education and Recreation

Harrison-Fletcher-Black Bill
George-Deen Act
WPA Recreation and Adult Education Program
Public Forum
National Park Service

3. Farm Tenancy

Resettlement	Farm Loans
Soil Conservation	Crop Loans
Cooperative	

4. Health and Housing
Federal Housing Authority
United States Housing Authority

5. Public Employment

- A. Civil Service
- B. Non-Civil Service

PWA
Federal Civil Service
Senate Investigation
The Presidential Order and Civil Service

6. Special Problems of Youth

National Youth Administration
National Youth Act
Civilian Conservation Corps

7. Civil Liberties - Political Suffrage

Lynching Legislation
The Democratic Primaries
National Defense Act

D. ORGANIZATION

1. Each of the six topics will be developed by a general speaker, a specific presentation where the issues are explored and discussion on the issues.
2. There will be a committee for each topic. This committee will make recommendations to the conference for consideration and adoption.
3. Ample provision will be made for discussion from the floor. Each topic will have its discussion leader.
4. The discussion must bear or have relation to what the Federal Government can do.

Persons having definite ideas and suggestions may put them in writing and press for their consideration in committee meetings.

General

General Procedures

1. Opening by the General Chairman
2. Presentations - General and Specific
3. Statement by the Discussion Leader
4. Discussion by the Conference from the Floor.

Committee Reports

The personnel of the conference is divided into seven working committees, one for each problem of the agenda. Each committee has as its head a chairman. The main business of the first two days of the conference is to enable each committee under its chairman to prepare and present to the conference on Friday morning, a set of definite recommendations on federal programs affecting the Negro and Negro youth.

There are three methods for conferees to get their opinions and recommendations before the committee:

1. Discussion from the floor
2. Written proposals and recommendations placed in the hands of the particular committee concerned.
3. Appearance in person before the committee at any time during the first hour (7 to 8 P.M.) on Friday evening. After 8 P.M. the committees will go into executive session to prepare their reports for submission on Friday morning at 10 o'clock.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PROBLEMS OF NEGRO
AND NEGRO YOUTH

January 12, 13 and 14, 1939

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Montgomery, Alabama

Trigg, Mr. H. L.
Negro Supervisor
State High School
Raleigh, North Carolina

Tobias, Dr. Channing
National YMCA
347 Madison Avenue
New York City

Turner, Dr. Thomas
Hampton Institute
Hampton, Va.

Valentine, Mr. W.R.
Bordentown Manual School
Bordentown, New Jersey

Washington, Mr. Forrester E.
Atlanta School of Social Work
Atlanta, Ga.

Washington, Mrs. Blanche
928 North Carolina Avenue, N.E.
Washington, D.C.

Watson, Mr. Rufus
311 Board of Education
Elst and Parkway
Philadelphia, Pa.

Watson, Mr. J.B.
Arkansas A & M College
Pine Bluff, Arkansas

White, Mr. Walter
69 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Wilkerson, Mr. Dixie A.
Howard University
Washington, D.C.

Wilkinson, Dr. Garnet C.
Franklin Administration Bldg.
Washington, D.C.

Williams, Miss Frances
National YWCA
600 Lexington Avenue
New York City

Williams, Rev. Robert M.
Asbury Park Church
11th and K Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Wilson, Mr. J. Finley
1618 Vernon Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Woodson, Mr. Carter G.
1536 Ninth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Welch, Mrs. Daisy E.
221 Florida Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Wesley, Mr. Carter
Houston Informer
2418 Leland Avenue
Houston, Texas

Wesley, Dr. Charles
Howard University
Washington, D.C.

West, Dr. Charles I.
924 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

West, Dr. John B.
Director Harlem Health Center
2238 Fifth Avenue
New York City

West, Mrs. Rebekah B.
924 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Yergan, Mr. Max
717 Florida Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Young, Mr. P. S. Jr, Editor
Norfolk Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Va.

White, Lorenzo

Amendment to the Report of the
Committee on Health

Because of the high cost and uncertain incidence of sickness, medical care given purely on the basis of the ability to pay is inadequate and constitutes a real menace to existing levels of living of all Americans. Since the average yearly income of the Negro family is from one-half to two-thirds under that of whites in the same geographical area, the hazards of inadequate medical attention are particularly serious. The ability of the average Negro to pay for adequate care on an individual basis is non-existent. This conference recommends that the principles of group medicine and of compulsory insurance constitute a sound method of lowering the cost of medical care to fit the pocketbook of the average American, particularly the Negro.

This program should be supplemented by Government grants made on the basis of need. This must be large enough to extend to all Americans the basic democratic right to exist. Obviously, the Negro would participate in relatively large measure, if any such program were put in operation.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

MEMORANDUM

January 5, 1939

TO: Dr. Doxie A. Wilkerson
FROM: Mary McLeod Bethune
SUBJECT:

I would appreciate your suggestions on this material.

M.M.B.

MMB

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

This seems to be quite appropriate. Is it desirable that your introductory statement call attention to the major areas with which the previous conference dealt and around which the present conference is organized?

D.A.W.

OPENING STATEMENT OF
MRS. MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE, DIRECTOR
DIVISION OF NEGRO AFFAIRS
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION

SECOND NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE PROBLEMS OF THE NEGRO AND NEGRO YOUTH
THURSDAY MORNING, JANUARY 12, TEN O'CLOCK

Two years ago, under the auspices of the National Youth Administration, a cross-section of Negroes from every walk of life and representing various types of Negro organizations and thought, was called together on the status of Negroes in the United States with regard to their participation and integration into the program of the Federal Government and to formulate suggestions and resolutions from their own point of view as to what the Federal Government could do to guarantee more liberal action on the part of the government. These recommendations were presented to the chief Federal Officer, the President of the United States, members of his cabinet and other federal officers.

We are gathered here again to evaluate, to take stock on what has been done ^{and} what has not been done in light of the recommendations which were made at the last conference. Much new federal legislation has been passed since we met last and much new legislation is to be considered by the present Congress now in session.

We do want to express our appreciation for the confidence which you have expressed in this second conference by your willing acceptance to participate and come again. You evidently feel as I do that the last conference did accomplish much and that many of the suggestions made have been put into action. These two years have made many changes in many directions. We have not made all of the progress but we have made many strides forward. We do want to express our appreciation for the confidence extended our efforts in

getting a full participation of the Negro into all of the governmental activities. We want to express our appreciation to our administrative head, Aubrey Williams, for his liberal and unbiased cooperation in extending to Negroes a larger opportunity through the agency of the National Youth Administration under whose auspices this conference is called. During the years and months it has been found expedient to call to Washington, groups and groups of white representatives to study and advise with the government on things pertinent to the welfare of the nation and its citizens. We, therefore, a minority group, feel called upon to face our problems in light of governmental integration and participation. Therefore, regardless of religious ideas or political affiliations we are ^{meeting} met here as Negroes to face squarely and fearlessly the problems confronting us and to check up as nearly as we can on what is happening to the group we represent through the agencies of the Federal Government.

In my mind, the things that are pertinent before us are our economic and social advancement and our next steps toward a larger realization of these objectives. It is vitally important as a minority group that in ^{this} a great growing, surging American life, ^{we} to take the time to think thoughtfully, ^{and} to emphasize our thoughts in a form which would be unmistakably sound to make public opinion. In light of what is happening in other parts of the world, the raping of Ethiopia, the persecution of the Jews, ^{it} behooves us to think sufficiently well to have our voices heard now and to be a real factor in the machinery of American life. Therefore, a conference like this under the auspices of the government is vitally important.

This conference is definitely non-partisan. The problems of the Negro and Negro youth regardless of political and religious affiliation are our chief

concern.

It is impossible for each person to speak but each person here can make written recommendations to the various committees.

We are glad to have you here and look forward to your participation in all of its activities.

WILL THE PRESIDENTS AND BOARDS OF NEGRO STATE INSTITUTIONS IN STATES OF SEGREGATION ARISE TO THE OCCASION OF THE NECESSITY FOR A PERFECT SETUP IN ESTABLISHING A CLASS--A SCHOOL IN THE VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS OF THE STATES OR WILL THEY BE INFLUENCED BY THE COMPLEX OF THE OLD WORN OUT STATEMENT; "WE CANNOT AFFORD TO ASK FOR TOO MUCH" THEREBY PERMITTING NEGRO EDUCATION TO CONTINUE IN A REALM OF INFERIORITY AS COMPARED AND TO THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM AS EXISTS IN THE WHITE INSTITUTIONS. OUR DUTY IS TO ASK FOR THE LIMIT AND GET IT. THAT THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT AS TO QUALIFICATIONS WHICH MUST EQUAL TO AVERT INFERIOR COMPLEX EXPRESSIONS SUCH AS WE SO FREQUENTLY HAVE--"OH THIS IS THE BEST NEGRO, THIS AND THAT". THUS OUR INSTITUTION HEADS SHOULD SET OUT TO FIND THE HIGHEST, MOST COMPLETE AND METHODICAL INSTITUTION IN BUILDING, EQUIPMENT AND TEACHING FORCE. TO ACCOMPLISH THIS THERE MUST BE A FEARLESSNESS ON THE PART OF THESE EDUCATIONS WITHOUT REGARD TO THE FUTURE OF THEIR POSITIONS. THEY MUST FORGET THE EVER PRESENT THOUGHT OF EXPENSE THAT CONFRONTS ALL COLORED EXECUTIVES. RATHER MUST THEY INTERPRET THE LETTER OF THE LAW AND APPLY ITS INTERPRETATION TO THE LETTER, WITH NO THOUGHT OF WHERE IT WILL LEAD FINANCIALLY SO LONG AS THEY DO NOT GO BY THE INTERPRETATIONS. IF THIS IS METHODICALLY DONE THEY NEED NOT WORRY ABOUT COST. WHEN THE DAY COMES THAT COST IS TOO GREAT AND THEIR CLAIMS OVERCOME AND OVERSHADOW THE ^{Persuasions} PERCUSSIONS OF TRADITIONS. --DUEL EDUCATION WILL END AND THE REAL DEMOCRACY OF OUR MODERN EDUCATION WILL BE OFFERED TO ALL ALIKE.

WJ WILLIAM J. THOMPkins

Recorder of Deeds, D. C.

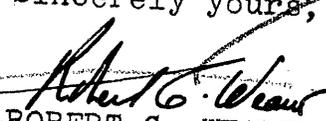
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
UNITED STATES HOUSING AUTHORITY
WASHINGTON

DEC 1 1938

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

In response to your letter of November 2, I am sending you herewith a statement of the work of this office, together with some of the literature of the United States Housing Authority. I hope that this information will be helpful to you in your conference program.

Sincerely yours,


ROBERT C. WEAVER,
Special Assistant.

For the Administrator.

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune,
Director, Division of Negro Affairs,
National Youth Administration,
1734 New York Avenue, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

*Off. of Spec. Asst.
U.S. Housing Auth.*

The Government's public housing program, now administered by the United States Housing Authority, was launched in 1934 by the Housing Division of the Public Works Administration in an effort to provide decent, safe and sanitary shelter for that ill-housed third of the Nation upon whom President Roosevelt focused attention in his second inaugural address. In addition to the construction of new homes, the program, then as now, had as an objective the reduction of unemployment through the stimulation of business activity.

From the beginning, the program has been aware of the acute needs of the Negro, both in housing and in employment. The USHA, which was established by the United States Housing Act of 1937, has continued and expanded the Government's low-rent housing program with full recognition of the aggravated needs of the Negro population. To assist in the integration of the Negro into the program, Mr. Nathan Straus, Administrator of the USHA, established a Division of Racial Relations and appointed a Special Assistant in charge of this unit. Previously, the program had had the services of an Adviser on Negro Affairs in the Department of the Interior.

Under the program of the Housing Division of PWA, a total of 21,447 dwelling units were developed in 49 projects throughout the country. Approximately 8,000 units are or will be occu-

pled by Negro tenants. Fourteen of these projects are for predominant Negro occupancy, while in 12 other projects families of both races are now living.

The program also provided jobs for Negro skilled and unskilled workers. By the close of the fiscal year, June 30, 1938, Negro workers had received almost \$3,250,000 in wages in 21 of the cities in which they were employed on these projects. This sum amounted to 15.5 percent of the total wages of approximately \$21,000,000. Included in the wages paid to Negroes was the sum of \$810,000 which went to colored skilled workers.

Participation of the Negro in the low-rent housing program has been continued by the USHA. During the first 13 months of the new program, loan contracts amounting to \$265,054,000 were signed with local housing authorities in 58 cities and 1 county in 21 states and the Territory of Hawaii. These loans provide for the construction of 52,951 dwelling units of which more than one-fourth will be occupied by Negro families. Shelter rents in these projects will range from \$2.00 to \$4.25 per room per month. Accordingly, families with annual incomes of less than \$1,100 will have an opportunity to live in these homes.

To carry out the Government's vast public housing program, an estimated 300,000 men working a year will be required. These will include building trades workers and others employed in the fabrication and transportation of building materials. A total of \$658,000,000 is expected to be paid out in wages to these workers. In order to insure an equitable share of this sum for Negro workers, the USHA, through its Division of Racial Relations and its Division of Labor Relations, is cooperating with local housing authorities with a view to incorporating in all construction contracts clauses designed to safeguard the interests of Negro labor.

In the matter of employment, the United States Housing Authority itself has set an example. On its Washington and field staffs, Negroes are employed in policy-making, professional, technical, managerial, and clerical positions, as well as in skilled and unskilled jobs. In addition to the Division of Racial Relations which employs eight persons, there are Negroes in the technical, legal, management, and financial divisions of the USHA.

Encouraged by the racial policy of the USHA, local authorities have included Negroes in their program. In 16 cities Negroes serve as members of the local housing authorities. And in one state a Negro is a member of the State Housing Board.

In addition to the Negroes employed in the management of the completed PWA housing projects, local authorities have employed Negroes as architects and technical workers, as assistants in the relocation of tenants, and as aides in land acquisition.

This policy of integrating the Negro into the program of the USHA is a responsibility which the Division of Racial Relations has sought to discharge and hopes to continue and expand throughout the coming years.

Full Conference Report

The Second National Conference on the Problems of the Negro and Negro Youth convened Thursday morning at the Departmental auditorium in Washington, under the leadership of Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Director of the Division of Negro Affairs, National Youth Administration.

In opening the conference of more than two hundred Negro leaders in national affairs from all parts of the country, Mrs. Bethune declared that the conference was in full accord with the president's definition of democracy, as "a covenant among free men to respect the rights and liberties of their fellows," but declared that the delegates recognized the fact that no such united democracy could exist unless such common opportunity was made available to all Americans regardless of race, color, or creed.

"A united patriotism" is the fruit of political equality, economic opportunity, and the universal enjoyment of basic civil rights.

"Only when these objectives are fully achieved will our country be able to stand before the world as the unsullied champion of true democracy. In this spirit we are met here today."

Aubrey Williams, Administrator of the National Youth Administration paid tribute to the "hopes and aspirations which have characterized American life since the foundation of the Republic.

"I am not deluding myself by thinking that these have become realities for all of the people in America because I know that they have not.

"I love to live the kind of life envisioned by Jefferson and Lincoln," declared the NYA chief, "and the poignant pain that I feel ever is to find that it is denied to other people."

Denouncing "insidious and treacherous forces" masquerading as Americanism, that "would first strike down this and then that minority group," Williams termed "the conservation of democracy in America" the most important step in National life.

The international crisis in National and racial relations he pointed to as "a horrible example thrown at us" which might well help America to realize its own shortcomings, "clear up" its own back yard, its own front yard, and its own household".

The NYA head called for patience and courage, declaring that at this period in world affairs time was fighting on the side of the right.

Mr. Williams was followed by Mrs. Frances Kerr, Assistant Administrator of the WPA, and by Miss Katherine Lanroot, chief of the Children's Bureau Department of Labor.

Miss Lanroot paid tribute to the work of Negro midwives in the south, who are carrying on in the absence of adequate medical supervision.

Committees evaluating progress in Negro affairs made since the first conference held here two years ago, reported "no progress" in the integration of the Negro in the benefits of some government agencies-- considerable progress in others.

Dr. George E. Haynes of the Federal Council of Churches commenting on administrative positions occupied by Negroes in the several emergency agencies of the government, called for Federal legislation which would make Negro participation in executive and administrative positions in the Federal Government, both permanent and mandatory.

NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION

For Immediate Release
Thursday, December 29, 1938.

ADMINISTRATOR AUBREY WILLIAMS ISSUES CALL FOR SECOND NYA CONFERENCE
ON PROBLEMS OF NEGRO YOUTH

Administrator Aubrey Williams of the National Youth Administration has issued a call for the second conference on problems of the Negro and Negro youth under the auspices of the National Youth Administration, to be held in Washington January 12-14, 1939.

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Director of the Division of Negro Affairs of the NYA, will officiate as director of the conference. Mrs. Bethune today issued the following statement regarding the meeting:

"Two years ago under the auspices of the National Youth Administration a cross section of Negroes from every walk of life and representing various types of Negro organizations and thought was called together in Washington to study and think together on the status of Negroes in the United States with regard to their participation and integration into the program of the Federal Government and to formulate suggestions and resolutions from their own point of view as to what the Federal Government could do to guarantee more liberal action on the part of the government. These recommendations were presented to the chief Federal officer, the President of the United States, members of his cabinet and other Federal officials.

"A similar conference at Washington is being called for January 12,

- 2 -

13, 14, 1939 to evaluate the progress or lack of progress which we have made and to think together on the next steps to be taken.

"This conference is definitely non-partisan. The problems of the Negro and Negro youth, regardless of political or religious affiliation are the concern of this conference. Those of you who are on the outside looking in will be prayerful and thoughtful of us on the inside attempting to work out constructive plans for a more full participation of the Negro in the program of the American government."

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January 12, 1939

At present in most of the permanent government establishments, Negro technical engineers, architects, draftsmen chemists and physicists are not employed.

Many competent Negroes have civil service eligibility but in a few departments, only a negligible percentage have been appointed and in the remainder of the Federal Service no appointments of Negro Technicians have been made. The departments and bureaus surveyed are as follows:

Federal Housing Administration	Home Owners Loan Association
U.S. Housing Authority	Tennessee Valley Authority
Alley Dwelling Authority Wash., D.C.	Public Works Administration
U.S. Geological Survey	Federal Communications Commission
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation	National Bureau of Standards
National Capital Park & Planning Commission	U.S. Patent Office
Procurement Division U.S. Treasury Dept.	U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey
U.S. Veterans Administration	Government of the Dist. of Col.
U.S. Bureau of Public Roads	
Rural Electrical Administration	
Farm Security Administration	
Bureau of Yards & Dock U.S. Navy Dept.	
Civilian Engineer Corps & Flood Control U.S. War Dept.	
Construction Division Quartermasters Dept. War Dept.	
Ordinance Bureau, Engineer Maintenance, Panama Canal War Dept.	
See exhibits herewith attached.	

The government of the District of Columbia consists of a board of three Commissioners appointed by the President of the United States, and are responsible to him. All appropriations are made for District of Columbia by U.S. Congress after recommendations by the U.S. Budget Bureau, Treasury Department. The citizens of the District of Columbia have no vote and are virtually wards of the nation. There are 162,000 Negroes or about 27% of population in the District of Columbia. No technical engineers, architects, etc. are employed in the government of the District of Columbia nor are any mechanics employed in the District of Columbia Repair Shop.

The following bureaus of the D.C. government present opportunities of employment for technicians:

Municipal Architects Office
Highway Department
Sanitary Engineers Office
Water Department

Surveyor's Office
Building Inspector's Office
District of Columbia Repair Shop

Negro Technicians should be given employment in this Capital City which should be an example to the nation in fairness to all groups of its citizens.

We wish to call special attention to the opportunities of employment for technical engineers, architects, chemists, physicists and artisans in the many construction and industrial trades in the Federal program for housing and national preparedness involving the War Department, bureaus of aviation, ordnance and the construction division of the Quartermaster Corps, Navy Department's Bureau of Yards and Docks, Ordnance and Aviation, Procurement Division Public Works Branch of the Treasury Department, Veterans Administration Architects office, U.S. Housing Authority and local housing authorities especially Federal Housing Administration, the Washington, D.C. Alley Dwelling authority that is now greatly increasing their personnel. Thousands of our youth will be trained as apprentices of mechanics in our navy yards in aviation, and in the Government Printing Office. We pray that in these activities a more liberal attitude of employment towards our technicians and artisans than in the past will be inaugurated.

The National Technical Association will gladly cooperate in furnishing lists of competent technicians when requested and the National Builders Association will supply desired data in regard to artisans.

The participation of labor in all government work is earnestly desired.

The P.S.A. under Secretary Ickes fashioned an effective device for integrating Negro labor into Federal contract work. This consisted essentially in the employment on the basis of the occupational statistics of the latest census of a proportionate quantity of Negro workers as indicated in job pay-rolls. It is always evident that the census would indicate invariably, what is an equitable distribution of jobs to Negroes. If, however, there is any error, it is in the modesty of the scheme from the standpoint of the black worker.

We, therefore, earnestly request that, by Executive Order, the mechanism referred to above be written into every Federal contract involving labor, and that effective provisions be created for enforcement.

Some of the organizations in which this new order would be operative are the Procurement Division of the Treasury Department which lets contracts for Federal building, Yards and Docks, and Construction and Repair Departments of the Navy Department, the War Department and the Department of Agriculture.

Whereas, the proportion of Negroes employed as technicians in engineering, architecture and chemistry, those employed as artisans in the maintenance departments of the government, those employed as artisans in any other government agencies such as the U.S. Navy Yard's aviation and ordnance plants, the Government Printing Office and the Bureau of Printing and Engraving and those employed upon contracts of various kinds financed by Federal funds, is small

and Whereas this works a very serious handicap upon the economic status of the Colored Citizens of this Country increasing unemployment, augmenting the relief load and discouraging the trained Negro youth through lack of opportunity.

therefore be it resolved

that this conference immediately call this deplorable condition to the attention of His Excellency the President of the United States to the end that the necessary reforms may be instituted to correct this condition.

Respectfully submitted

Howard D. Woodson, Chairman of Employment
Committee of National Technical Association
and President of National Builders Association.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC SECURITY

Introduction

It is not necessary for this conference again to make lengthy reference to the precarious social and economic position of the Negro population, except to point out that this position continues with slight abatement, in spite of the more or less substantial gains that are noted in these proceedings. The fact that 33% of the Negro population, as compared with 20% of the white population, is still dependent upon public relief is ample proof that unemployment continues among Negroes in severe disproportion to their numbers in the population.

In a situation so deeply rooted and arising out of so many diverse factors, it is evident that no single program of corrective action will be sufficient to remedy the defects that handicap us in the form and administration of governmental recovery programs. The conference acknowledges that many federal and state officials have become honestly concerned over this breakdown of democratic government and are introducing new personnel and new regulations in attempts to correct the conditions referred to above. The Conference deplores, on the other hand, continued efforts by many local officials to withhold from Negro citizens the benefits of projects planned by the Administration for the entire population - projects which are financed by all classes in the population.

The recommendations which are presented by the Committee on Social and Economic Security are designed to check discriminatory practices, and to support the efforts of the Federal Government to insure equitable distribution of benefits of its program of social and economic reform.

Participation in Administrative Functions

Basic to equitable participation by Negroes in the benefits of governmental programs is participation by Negroes in the policy-making and administrative functions of those programs. Two years ago this Conference noted the absence of Negroes in such capacities and since that time slight progress has been made. We repeat the recommendation made two years ago, and urge the appointment of Negroes to policy-making and administrative bodies, with specific reference to relief and recovery programs, including regional, state and local work projects, and relief and commodity distribution programs. We urge moreover that the federal government use its influence with state and local governments to make similar appointment of Negroes to such responsible posts.

United States Employment Service

Continuance of disproportionately heavy unemployment among Negroes with no prospect of its conclusion, places public employment services in a place of extreme importance to Negro workers. According to estimates of the Social Security Board, 54.6% of Negro labor works in fields not covered by unemployment compensation. It is especially important, therefore, to Negro job applicants that adequate public employment services be maintained and kept free of racial discriminations. We urge that adequacy of service be further established by increased appropriation for the USES. The Conference

notes with approval the steps that have been taken toward integrating qualified Negroes as staff members of the USES and many of its state affiliates, and urges the appointment of more Negroes to the field service of USES. The Conference also calls attention to many instances of rank injustice practiced by certain states in the appointment of their personnel and their placement activities. In such cases the Conference feels that federal funds are improperly used to perpetuate local policies of excluding Negroes from certain types of job opportunities. We recommend that the USES use its authority in disbursing funds to states so as to insure that federal subsidy shall not be used to the disadvantage of minority groups in the population, and that funds be withheld in extreme cases where state services are guilty of gross discrimination against Negroes in performance or placement activities.

Administration of Relief Funds

No developments have occurred since the last Conference to cause this Committee to change from the attitude expressed at that time on the matter of federal vs. state control of work projects and relief administration. On the contrary, experience has shown us that relief administrators in many state and municipalities either lack sympathetic understanding of the problems of minority groups, or are desirous of preventing Negroes from equitable sharing of the benefits of relief programs. Under these conditions, it is apparent that federal control of relief funds furnishes the most practical safeguard for the protection of minority groups. The Committee deplores the present trend in Congress toward state control of federal relief funds and debasing of existing relief standards. The Committee recommends that Congress be urged to increase, rather than decrease the amount of monies appropriated for WPA and other relief functions of the government. The Committee recommends moreover that no extension of state control of relief funds shall be made without careful safeguards insuring that all classes in the population shall have equitable participation in the benefits of such funds. We recommend that when federal grants of relief funds are made to states, they shall be made conditional upon such equal participation, the Federal Government reserving the right to withdrawal of grants should discrimination be employed by the state in question.

We recommend that the USES use its influence to aid in the appointment of Negroes to membership on state advisory or other governing boards of public employment services. We protest the unwillingness of public employment services to exert special effort on behalf of Negro job applicants who meet special handicaps in their search for employment. We feel it to be the responsibility of state employment services to educate employers regarding the existence and availability of Negroes qualified for all types of employment, and this responsibility cannot be performed through adoption of a "neutral" attitude. We recommend that the USES continue to impress upon local services the importance of adopting a positive policy in the matter of securing equal job opportunities for Negroes and other minority groups.

Social Security

The Conference endorses the principles and objectives of the Social Security Act, but calls attention to the fact that any social security program intended to meet the actual problem of social insecurity cannot be static in form or theoretical in its administration. Both form and administration must change frequently to be efficient in meeting current needs. The Conference endorses the recommendations made to the Social Security Board by the Social Security Advisory Council and approved by the President, calling for inclusion, beginning in 1940, of farm and domestic workers in the provisions of the Social Security Act; monthly benefits to widows and dependent children; ~~an~~ increased benefits for lower income groups; compulsory health insurance; amendment of the unemployment insurance provisions to include employers of one or more wage earners.

As a basis for more equitable distribution of the benefits of social security programs, the Committee recommends that all personnel in Federal-State programs be appointed through merit examination under laws similar to those of the Federal Civil Service. We call attention to the lack of Negro personnel in the national or any regional staff, and in all but two of the 372 field offices. Especially is this notable in the national office, where fundamental programs are made and policies shaped. We urge the extensive appointment of Negroes throughout the services, with especial attention to those areas where Negroes constitute a large proportion in the population and stand in especial need of the services of the Social Security program.

Consumer Education

With more than 50% of all Negroes now gainfully employed excluded from the benefits of the Federal Social Security program and the Wage-and-Hour Act, and with the general income of the Negro population at distressingly low levels, even in times of normal employment, it becomes necessary to protect the level of living for Negroes, as for other low-income groups, by not only increasing the wage level, but also by increasing the efficiency of utilization of the present wage. Both of these are means of increasing the economic welfare of the Negro worker and are supplementary, not competitive. We recommend, therefore, a program of consumer education, financed by the Federal and State Governments, looking toward cooperative developments with credit unions in the forefront.

Vocational Education, Guidance and Placement, and Apprenticeship Training

Technological growth, social and economic change, and consequent vocational maladjustment have increased the demands made by industry upon all workers and have intensified the problems of training workers for present-day employment. It is easily apparent that these problems are even more serious for Negro workers.

notorious that for all practical purposes such apprenticeship training as is now offered by, or in cooperation with trade unions is denied to Negroes; We recommend and urge:

1. That present programs of vocational guidance, education and placement, and programs of apprenticeship training be ~~maintain~~ increased and further implemented:
 - a) By the appointment of adequate Negro personnel to all agencies of the Federal Government having to do with these aspects of the employment programs of the nation, and
 - b) By the Federal Government using this personnel to effect proper representation of Negroes on all state and local administrative and policy-making agencies having to do with this work.
 - c) And "in view of the special needs of Negro youth for the facilities intended to be provided by the Apprentice Training Program, we recommend again that:
 - (1) That well qualified Negroes be appointed to membership on the Federal Committee on Apprentice Training, and
 - (2) That adequate and qualified Negro personnel be appointed to State Committees on Apprentice Training, and
 - (3) That State Advisory Committees, and such other state and local agencies, dealing with Apprentice Training include in their membership adequate qualified Negro personnel.

Wage and Hour Administration

The Conference heard with pleasure reports by the Wage and Hour Administrator of progress made by Negro labor under the Wage and Hour Act. We urge that the Administrator take such steps as are needed to verify or disprove accounts of loss of employment by Negroes because of evasion of the Act's provisions. We commend the first steps that have been taken toward the inclusion of Negroes in the Administration's personnel, and we urge early and adequate provision for more-widespread inclusion. Specifically we suggest the appointment of Negroes to such positions as attorneys, information persons, enforcement workers and the like.

NO. 100-100000
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535
MAY 19 1964

Employment on Federal Work Contracts and Use of Federal Funds

The Conference views with concern the fact that as direct control of work projects has tended to shift from Federal Government to State and Municipality, there has been little provision in that shift for protecting the right of Negro workers to employment on public work contracts. The liquidation of the Housing Division of PWA, and the withdrawal of federal government from direct construction of low-cost housing, saw elimination of the federal provision for a "racial minimum quota" as a safeguard against racial discrimination. Through USHA, not a few municipalities have been persuaded to include such provisions in their local regulations, notably and recently the city of Pittsburg. We urge that the Federal Government continue its good offices in this direction, and that Negro citizens initiate pressure upon their state and municipal authorities to the end that enabling provisions be made against racial discrimination.

The conference urges even more extended protest against flagrant misuse of public funds that occurs in agencies administered directly by the Federal Government. We protest regulations of the Federal Housing Authority which prevent the guaranteeing of mortgages held by Negroes in so-called "white districts", or of those held by whites in so-called "Negro districts", for we hold such regulations to be using federal funds to fix and freeze local residential patterns formed out of prejudice and unAmerican attitudes. The conference protests the policies of the TCA which have resulted in exclusion of Negroes from residence in the permanent model communities of TVA and from preferred types of employment therein. We recommend that protest against these and similar instances of misuse of federal funds to perpetuate unAmerican attitudes be a continuing responsibility of the Federal Council of Negro Affairs.

Collective Bargaining

Protection for Negro labor in bargaining agreements between trade unions and employers remains an issue of paramount importance in 1939. The prospects for Negro workers within the ranks of unions have brightened considerably in the past two years, due to increased intelligence and militancy of Negro labor, growth of liberal forces within A.F. of L. unions and the rise of the Congress of Industrial Organizations with advanced racial policies and intelligent relations between white and Negro membership.

Anti-Negro discrimination, however, still remains in many unions and continues as a barrier against job opportunities for Negroes in vast areas of public and private employment. Connivance between railway unions and managements in southern states has resulted in steady decrease in number of Negroes employed by railways in that section, while they remain barred entirely from railway employment in many other sections of the country.

In absence of specific provision by the National Labor Relations Act against such practices, two courses are open to Negroes to secure protection of their right to collective bargaining. The Conference notes passage by the Pennsylvania Legislature of a labor relations act which barred from protection of that act those unions that discriminate against workers on account of race or religion. Similar action is urged upon other legislatures, and the support of Negro voters should be rallied to secure such action. The Conference recommends moreover that Negro workers who find themselves deprived of bargaining rights and trade union membership by unions which bargain with employers under the National Labor Relations Act shall test the readiness and ability of the National Labor Relations Board to intervene in their behalf by making protest to the Board against deprivation of their rights. We recommend also that the National Labor Board recognize the special problems and needs faced by Negro labor in their relations with employers and trade unions, by appointing capable Negroes as attorneys and in other posts where they may increase the effectiveness of the Board and the protection it accords Negro labor.

We reaffirm support of a minimum wage of \$1500 and a maximum of 30-hour week for federal and district employees.

Domestic Workers

The problem of Negro domestic workers in the United States, affecting as it does more than 85% of all Negro women workers, is one which does, and will, continue, to demand immediate action by the Federal Government. Their wages, hours, and standards of living, even lower than those for white workers, in both rural and urban communities offer a challenge to American ideals of social legislation.

Immediately, we believe it to be necessary for Congress to enact legislation, establishing minimum standards for these workers, protecting them with adequate social security and workmen's compensation legislation and guaranteeing to them the right to organize and bargain collectively. We believe further that the United States Employment Service, and Federal relief agencies should establish policies to prevent assignment to domestic jobs below certain decent wage and labor standards, and to provide adequate relief to such domestic workers as cannot secure jobs at wages sufficient to provide a decent standard of living. It has already been indicated that these workers should and must be included in the benefits of the Social Security Board.

It is further urged that the Federal Government exert the influence and service of its various agencies to provide education, information, and support in the technique and implements of trade union organization in the interest of domestic workers; and further that similar assistance be provided in the areas of consumers education and cooperatives to assist these groups in the development of collective action in their own interest.

Lester B. Granger, Chairman

CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS

SummaryTHE PROGRAM IN ACTION

Compiled by Edgar G. Brown

WHAT THE CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS (CCC) IS DOING FOR
COLORED YOUTH.

Approximately:

- 30,000 young colored men and war veterans, one tenth of the total CCC enrollment, are actively participating in the Civilian Conservation Corps. They are engaged on work projects throughout the country.
- \$700,000 a month is allotted by colored CCC boys to their parents and dependents back home.
- ~~150,000~~^{200,000} colored CCC boys have served in the corps and many have gained from seven to fifteen pounds in weight during the past five years.
- 142 ~~150~~ colored college graduates are serving CCC camps as educational advisers.
- 22 ~~25~~ colored medical, reserve officers and chaplains of the U. S. Reserve Corps are on active duty in the nation's CCC camps.
- 300 colored typists are assigned to CCC headquarters of the commanding officers and supervisory forces.
- 1,200 colored cooks are steadily employed in CCC Mess Halls.
- 700 colored project assistants are on duty at CCC camps.
- 12,000 colored CCC enrollees in the past five years have completed courses in First-aid through co-operation of the Civilian Conservation Corps and the National Red Cross.
- 10,000 colored Enrollees have been taught to read and write during the past five years through the educational program.

NEGRO PARTICIPATION IN THE C.C.C.

The Civilian Conservation Corps was established by President Roosevelt on April 5, 1933. On the same day Robert Fechner was named Director.

The purpose of Civilian Conservation Corps work is to relieve acute conditions of distress and unemployment in the United States and to provide for the restoration of the country's natural resources and the advancement of an orderly program of useful public works.

Civilian Conservation Corps enrollees are selected on a state-quota basis by the Labor Department from unemployed and needy young men. Veterans are selected by the Veterans' Bureau.

From the beginning of the CCC, colored youths have shared in the program. At the peak strength of the CCC, reached in August, 1935, there were 506,000 young men and war veterans enrolled. Of this number, approximately 50,000 were colored.

Today, there are approximately 311,000 men in the Civilian Conservation Corps. Of this number, 30,000 are colored enrollees, selected from every state in the union. They are engaged on numerous conservation projects which are of present and future benefit to our country. At present there are thirty-seven colored CCC companies engaged in soil conservation projects. Other colored companies are carrying on reforestation and forest protection work, recreational development, levee, drainage, flood control and other projects. Millions of dollars have been saved for the country by the conservation activities of the Civilian Conservation Corps.

~~About 7,500 colored enrollees were assigned to CCC projects in the state of Mississippi.~~

Approximately \$700,000 is sent back home to their parents and dependents by colored CCC enrollees each month out of their earnings. At the time they enter the corps, these young men arrange to send approximately five sixths of their monthly cash allowance directly to their families. The CCC enrollees receive a basic cash allowance of \$30 a month. This means that approximately \$25 a month is allotted home by each enrollee. This money has been of great assistance to the dependent families of the boys. Often these CCC men are the chief breadwinners for their families. The enrollees ability to help support their dependents increases their self-respect and their pride of accomplishment.

Mindful of the health of these colored boys, medical officers from the U. S. Army Reserve Corps have been assigned to look after their physical well being. Fourteen colored medical officers are now on active duty at CCC camps throughout the country. Each company is provided with a first-aid building, company hospital, or dispensary with a medical officer in charge. Orderlies are appointed from among the enrollees.

The Office of Education has acted in an advisory capacity to the War Department in working out an educational and recreational program. Each company has an educational adviser, *paid out of CCC funds* who develops a program suited to the individual needs of each camp. College graduates are appointed to fill these positions. *Twelve* thousand colored enrollees who were illiterate have been taught to read and write in classes offered by the CCC camps. There are today *12* colored men serving the CCC camps as educational advisers. Most of the educational work is carried on at camp. Arrangements are often made, however, for enrollees to take additional school work in public school evening classes in nearby cities. The camp educational programs offer instruction in carpentry, shorthand, typing, forestry, auto mechanics, landscaping and numerous other vocational subjects. While attendance at classes is voluntary, approximately sixty per cent of the enrollees attend. Classes in first-aid, safety, morale, guidance, leadership and hygiene have been well attended. While at work, CCC enrollees are given practical instruction on the job by the project superintendent and the technical staff.

Baseball and soft ball diamonds, tennis courts and basket ball courts have been laid out to provide recreational facilities at the camps. Some of the camps have produced championship teams in baseball and other sports. Current movies, health education films, lectures on geography, conservation, history and other topics, and plays are included in the camp educational and entertainment program. Trips to nearby museums and other points of interest are frequently scheduled.

Four colored chaplains of the U. S. Army Reserve Corps direct the religious activities in a number of the colored camps. They are aided by ministers from nearby communities.

Through the experience and training received in the CCC, boys learn how to live together and work together amicably. Experience and training afforded by the CCC has helped many boys to secure employment. The specialized knowledge gained by filling such positions as mess sergeant, company clerk, assistant educational adviser, leaders, project assistants, store clerk and manager, foreman and first-aid men has proved valuable to these enrollees in the Civilian Conservation Corps.

END.