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## NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE

FOR SOCIAL SERVICE AMONG NEGROES  
TELEPHONE IVY 4361  
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December 18, 1924.

*Mr. Jones' Files*

Hon. Carl Phillips,  
U. S. Dept. of Labor,  
Washington, D. C.

*Affiliated Movements  
of the League exist  
in the following cities:*

Dear Sir:

ALBANY, GA.  
ATLANTA  
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YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

JOT/OEB

I am enclosing herewith a copy of letter that we are writing Hon. Francis I. Jones. Mr. McGrath, his representative here is enthusiastic of the proposed relationship of our organization with the United States Employment Service. It may not be necessary, but I am asking that you camp on the trail of Director Jones until this matter is closed. Keep me posted as to developments and advise the next steps.

Thanks awfully.

Yours very truly,

*Jesse O. Thomas*  
Jesse O. Thomas,  
Field Secretary,  
National Urban League.

*D. L. (i)(2)*

COPY.

Hon. Francis I. Jones,  
Dept. of Labor,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

As per your suggestion I have conferred with Mr. J. P. McGrath, with reference to the cooperation of the Urban League Employment Agency with the United States Employment Service. Mr. McGrath heartily approves of the method of cooperation with other agencies in the community sustained with your service. He promised to write you a letter, expressing his approval in this connection. I presume you have heard from him by this time. The person whom we would recommend for the one dollar a year service is named Mrs. L. L. Craig.

We shall be glad to hear from you as to whatever qualifications are necessary for us to secure the cooperation mentioned in your address in our meeting in Cleveland.

Thanking you for the manifestation of your interest in our work and the desire to cooperate with us.

Yours very truly,

Jesse O. Thomas, Field Secretary  
National Urban League.

JOT/OEB

# ST. PAUL URBAN LEAGUE

FOR SOCIAL SERVICE AMONG NEGROES

61 EAST SIXTH STREET ROOM 308 ST. PAUL, MINN.

TELEPHONE: GARFIELD 6667

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Dec. 18, 1924.

Hon. Karl Phillips,  
U.S. Department of Labor,  
Division of Mediation and Conciliation,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Our mutual friend, Mr. Frederick D. McCracken said that while he was connected with the Department of Labor with Dr. Haynes- a survey was made in Washington, of the Negro in industry and much valuable data was gathered concerning colored employees in laundries.

The St. Paul Urban League is making an effort to open laundries in this district to colored men and women. If you can send us this information or any other of value, I will appreciate it very much. I would like to get some sort of report from laundries in the district- authenticated by special agents.

Answer please as soon as convenient.

Sincerely yours,

E.A. Carter,  
Executive Secretary.

EAC/BH.

December 22, 1924.

Mr. Jesse O. Thomas,  
Field Secretary, National Urban League,  
200 Auburn Avenue,  
Atlanta, Ga.

My dear Mr. Thomas:

I have your letter of December 18th, enclosing copy of your letter to Director-General Jones, of the U. S. Employment Service.

I shall be pleased to follow up the matter with Mr. Jones. In the meantime, will you not kindly advise me whether or not there is any duplication of work between your office and the office of Mr. McGrath in placement efforts, etc.

With the greetings of the season, I am

Yours very truly,

Karl F. Phillips,  
Commissioner of Conciliation.

P. S. On several occasions Mr. Jones has expressed to me his anxiety and hope to consummate the arrangement with which you and he are concerned. I know that he will do his full part, in accordance with his promises.

January 5, 1925.

Mr. E. A. Carter,  
Executive Secretary, St. Paul Urban League,  
61 East Sixth Street,  
St. Paul, Minn.

My dear Mr. Carter:

I very much regret that earlier reply to your letter of December 18th has not been made. I was out of the office upon official business during the latter part of December, and am just catching up with correspondence at this time.

Inasmuch as the original laundry releases of this office were exhausted some time ago, I am sending you a rough typewritten duplicate, which I trust may be of some use. The summaries shown were gathered from questionnaires, of which the enclosure is a sample. I regret that I have not the time this morning to arrange a better schedule for you, based upon the occupations of some of the giant laundries of New York City. If you will keep in touch with me I shall be glad to do this at a later date.

In the meantime, I wish you great success in "getting on" some Negro laundry hands in your city. They are doing remarkable work in this industry in other northern cities, and in New York are engaged in virtually every occupation at the plant.

Assuring you that the services of this office are ever at your disposal, I am

Cordially yours,

Karl F. Phillips,  
Commissioner of Conciliation.

P. S. Kindly give my warmest greetings to Fred McCracken. Ask him to write to me at his earliest convenience.

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S  
February 14, 1925.

Mr. Alonso C. Thayer,  
Civic and Industrial Secretary,  
Chicago Urban League,  
3032 South Wabash Avenue,  
Chicago, Ill.

My dear Mr. Thayer:

The Secretary of Labor has referred to me, for reply, your inquiry of February 12th, just as I am leaving for Detroit and other points in Michigan, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. I shall return to the office here on next Saturday morning, and shall be glad, at that time, to give your letter my very best attention.

Yours very truly,

Karl F. Phillips,  
Commissioner of Conciliation.

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COMMERCE SUBSCRIPTIONS INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE FOR THE REGULAR PERIOD ENDING NOVEMBER THIRTIETH, NINETEEN HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THREE

3032 SOUTH WABASH AVENUE  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS  
TELEPHONE CALUMET 0710

BRANCH OF THE NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE  
127 E. 23RD STREET  
NEW YORK CITY

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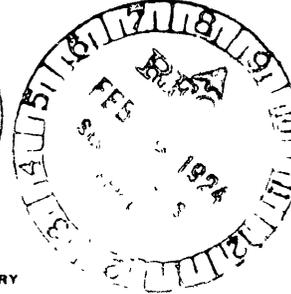
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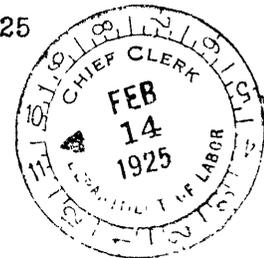
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February 12, 1925



Secretary of Labor Davis  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Davis:

You, no doubt, are acquainted with the work of the Chicago Urban League and its effort in placing Negroes in employment. We are very much interested in getting information, insofar as your office may be able to supply us, about Negro labor in the following cities:

Evanston, Ill.  
Waukegan, "  
Elgin, "  
Joliet, "  
Peoria, "  
Kankakee, "  
Aurora, "  
East St. Louis, Ill.  
Michigan City, Ind.  
Hammond, "  
Valparaiso, "  
La Porte, "  
Kenosha, Wis.  
Racine, "  
St. Paul, Minn.  
Minneapolis, Minn.

Yours truly,

*Alroy C. Thayer*  
Civic & Industrial Secretary

ACT:C

*N.B. The Inquiry pertains especially to the number of Negroes at work in these cities.*

## CHICAGO URBAN LEAGUE

ENDORSED BY THE CHICAGO ASSOCIATION OF  
COMMERCE SUBSCRIPTIONS INVESTIGATING COM-  
MITTEE FOR THE REGULAR PERIOD ENDING NOVEMBER  
THIRTIETH, NINETEEN HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THREE

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MILWAUKEE  
NASHVILLE  
NEWARK  
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PLAINFIELD, N. J.  
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SPRINGFIELD, MASS  
ST. LOUIS  
ST. PAUL  
TAMPA, FLA.  
TOLEDO, O.  
YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

March 23, 1925

Mr. Karl F. Phillips,  
Commissioner of Conciliation  
Department of Labor  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Phillips:

On February 12th I wrote Mr. Davis,  
Secretary of Labor, for certain information  
concerning the numbers of Negro laborers  
in various cities, which no doubt you will  
find in the letter file. Will you kindly  
forward me this information at your earliest  
convenience?

Yours truly,

*Alonzo C. Thayer.*  
Civic & Industrial Sec'y

ACT:C

## CHICAGO URBAN LEAGUE

ENDORSED BY THE CHICAGO ASSOCIATION OF  
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TAMPA, FLA.  
TOLEDO, O.  
YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

April 13, 1925

Mr. Carl F. Phillips,  
Commissioner of Conciliation  
Department of Labor  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Phillips:

On February 12th I wrote the Secretary of  
Labor for certain information and was advised,  
in reply by you on February 14th, that you would  
give this matter your very best attention after  
your return the latter part of February.

On March 23rd I again wrote you requesting  
this information. Fearing lest you have mis-  
placed my letter to you, I am enclosing a copy  
of same.

Will you kindly advise me whether this  
information is available at this time. I shall  
greatly appreciate whatever information along  
this line your efforts will give.

Yours truly,

*Alonzo C. Thayer.*  
Civic & Industrial Sec'y

Encl.  
ACT:C

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\*Deceased

# The Urban League of St. Louis

(Formerly Urban League of the St. Louis Provident Association)

Member of the Community Fund of St. Louis  
 Member of Community Council of St. Louis  
 Affiliated with the National Urban League  
 for Social Work Among Negroes

615 NORTH JEFFERSON AVENUE  
ST. LOUIS, MO.

Telephones: { BOMONT 3820  
BOMONT 3821



GORDON H. SIMPSON  
Executive Secretary

OBJECTS

To promote co-ordination and co-operation of agencies and individuals interested in the welfare of the Negro.

To improve the social, industrial, and economic conditions among Negroes of St. Louis, emphasis being placed on health, education, employment, housing and delinquency.

To procure better facilities for Negroes thru public and private agencies.

To foster inter-racial co-operation whenever and wherever practicable and helpful to both races.

Apr. 23, 1925.

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- Richmond, Ind.
- Richmond, Va.
- Savannah
- Springfield, Mass.
- St. Louis
- Tampa, Fla.
- Toledo, Ohio
- Westfield, N. J.
- White Plains, N. Y.
- Youngstown, Ohio

Mr. Carl Phillips,  
Department of Labor,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Phillips:

It occurred to me that you doubtless would be interested in reading and having for future reference a review of the work of the Urban League of St. Louis presented at the Annual Meeting Friday, April 3rd. I am therefore sending you a marked copy of the St. Louis Argus of April 17th which contains an article on our work.

Very truly yours,

Gordon H. Simpson,  
Executive Secretary.

GHS/MEC

April 27, 1925.

Mr. Gordon H. Simpson,  
Executive Secretary, Urban League of St. Louis,  
615 N. Jefferson Avenue,  
St. Louis, Mo.

My dear Mr. Simpson:

I thank you for your courtesy in sending me copy of St. Louis Argus, containing the review of the splendid work which you have been doing. We are very glad to have the information. As you know, Secretary of Labor Davis is much interested in the work of the Urban League, and since I have had the honor of being his official representative in the particular matters pertaining to Negro labor, a fine bond of reciprocal cooperation has obtained between this office and the many branches of the Urban League. In fact, I am expecting Mr. Hill to attend a conference with the Secretary on Tuesday, and if an interesting report ensues, I shall send you a copy.

With kind regards, and with appreciation for your keeping this office in mind, I am

Sincerely yours,

Karl F. Phillips,  
Commissioner of Conciliation.

P  
P

MEMBER OF THE COMMUNITY CHEST

MEMBER OF THE NAT'L. URBAN LEAGUE

# THE LOUISVILLE URBAN LEAGUE

INCORPORATED 1921

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*For Social Service Among Negroes*

613 W. WALNUT STREET

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*Executive Secretary*

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Dec. 2, 1925.

Mr. Carl Phillips,  
Commissioner of Conciliation,  
Department of Labor,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Phillips:

I have discussed my plans with Mrs. Hert and other local officials. Mrs. Hert thinks well of my plan and requested a copy which she mailed to Senator Ernest. I will be in Washington the latter part of January and hope to have a brief conference with Senator Ernest, relative to this matter. I will write you definitely before coming as I wish to discuss a number of matters with you.

Trusting that I shall hear from you soon relative to your conference with Senator Ernest referred to in your letter of November 9th, I am

Very truly yours,

*J. M. Ragland*  
Executive Secretary.

JMR:EM

May 5, 1925.

Mr. Alonzo C. Thayer,  
Civic and Industrial Secretary,  
Chicago Urban League,  
3032 South Wabash Avenue,  
Chicago, Ill.

My dear Mr. Thayer:

I am quite sure that your impression of this particular office is decidedly unfavorable on account of my apparent laxity in giving attention to your requests concerning Negro employment in Evanston, Ill., and other Illinois and Indiana cities, etc. I wish, however, to file a plea of general illness caused by excessive road work and the pressure of urgent office matters which has invariably followed my return to Washington, D. C., after each trip. Further delay was entailed in my endeavoring to comply explicitly with your request for figures relating to "the number of Negroes at work in these cities," which, I regret, are not even yet available.

Under these circumstances, I am still slightly at loss as to how to help you secure the information you desire. However, if a general statement as to the labor situation, as it affects Negro workers in the cities named, is desired I shall be glad to prepare the same for you specially. If you desire this, kindly wire me "Official Business -- U. S. Government, Collect" and I shall prepare the statement at once. I make this suggestion because I assume that with your office in close proximity to Evanston, and with Mr. Carter and Mr. Simpson at St. Paul and St. Louis, respectively, the Urban League is in a better position than is this office to secure detailed facts and figures. I am anxious, however, to cooperate with the Urban League in the fullest manner possible, and will be pleased to have your further suggestions.

Very truly yours,

Karl F. Phillips,  
Commissioner of Conciliation.

P. S. Have just had a pleasant conference with Mr. T. Arnold Hill.

MEMBER OF THE COMMUNITY CHEST

MEMBER OF THE NAT'L. URBAN LEAGUE

# THE LOUISVILLE URBAN LEAGUE

INCORPORATED 1921

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January 21, 1926.

Mr. Carl Phillips,  
Commissioner of Conciliation,  
U. S. Department of Labor,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Phillips:

I will arrive in your city at one o'clock  
Wednesday, January 27th. I will stop at 1745 Oregon Ave.,  
the residence of Mrs. W. H. Jones. Please phone me  
during the afternoon.

Very truly yours,

*J. M. Ragland*  
Executive Secretary.

JMR:EM

ENDORSED BY THE CHICAGO ASSOCIATION  
OF COMMERCE SUBSCRIPTIONS INVESTIGAT-  
ING COMMITTEE for the REGULAR PERIOD ENDING  
NOVEMBER THIRTIETH, NINETEEN HUNDRED AND  
AND TWENTY-FIVE.

**CHICAGO URBAN LEAGUE**  
3032 SOUTH WABASH AVENUE

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127 E. 23rd Street New York City

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS  
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February 12, 1926.

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Louisville  
Milwaukee  
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New York  
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Pittsburgh  
Plainfield, N. J.  
Richmond, Ind.  
Springfield, Mass.  
St. Louis  
St. Paul  
Tampa, Fla.  
Toledo, O.  
Youngstown, O.

Mr. Karl F. Phillips,  
Commissioner of Conciliation,  
Department of Labor,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Phillips:

Have just received the copy of the 1925 Annual  
Report of the Secretary of Labor you sent, for which  
I am very grateful to you.

With best wishes, I am

Yours truly,

*J. H. Robinson*

INDUSTRIAL SECRETARY

HNR\*K

*with League*

# NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE

FOR SOCIAL SERVICE AMONG NEGROES

127 EAST 23RD STREET ROOMS 31-33-34 NEW YORK CITY

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October  
5th,  
1926

Mr. Karl F. Phillips,  
Commissioner of Conciliation,  
Department of Labor,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Phillips:-

I thank you for your kind letter of September 29th and for the information it contained to the effect that we have been placed on the mailing lists of the bureaus of the Department of Labor. I do not wish to trouble you to make a special copy of the Ohio Survey for me. I am planning a trip through Ohio and thought that I might be saved some steps and work by reading your report which would serve as a guide to me. If you think that the report will be ready by the first of the year, then do not bother to make a special summary for my benefit.

Sincerely yours,

T. Arnold Hill,  
Director.

T.A.H:V.M.F

News release - Nov. 13th, 1926

*Urban League*

URBAN LEAGUE REPORTS ON INDUSTRY FOR OCTOBER

Bulletin No. 8 of the Industrial Relations Department of the National Urban League summarizes employment conditions throughout the country as follows:

Labor conditions remain practically unchanged throughout the country. This report comes from such widely scattered districts as Michigan, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Georgia, Missouri, Indiana, Texas, Arkansas, Kentucky, Illinois, and New York.

\*\*\*MIGRATION\*\*\*

There is still a movement of labor in the cotton areas of Missouri, Texas, and Arkansas. An advisor from Texas estimates that there is a demand for 30,000 cotton pickers in that state. St. Louis reports an influx of workers during the last few months - most of them from the North. Colored families are leaving St. Paul because of lack of industrial opportunities. Two factories there which had promised to try a few colored workers now say that they cannot take them on at this time.

\*\*\*DISCRIMINATION\*\*\*

Colored waiters in Pershing Palace, Chicago, were replaced by white, when a change was made in the management. A call received at the Brooklyn Y. M. C. A. from Philadelphia for a designer was withdrawn when a colored man was sent to apply for the position.

oooORGANIZED LABORooo

The fifty colored members of the Paper Box Makers' Union in New York have been taking an active part in the strike of 2500 paper box workers. On the other hand, there is an attempt being made to break the strike by the use of colored girls. An effort is being made to organize unskilled labor in Harrisburg, Pa. Colored girls in one factory in Chicago have started a movement to organize since the date workers have gone on strike there.

oooFAVORABLE CONDITIONS REPORTEDooo

Chicago: There are openings in the lamp shade industry, date factories, and an increasing demand for power machine operatives. Calls are coming from parts of Illinois and Indiana for railway section hands.

New York: A coal company has employed a Negro salesman. There is a demand for track workers at 42¢ an hour.

Winston-Salem: Fifteen thousand Negroes are employed in the tobacco factories of Winston-Salem - 12,000 being hired by one company. There is a gain in street repair work.

Hot Springs, Ark.: There has been a gain for colored workers in the building trades, farm labor, and in the saw mills. Several office buildings have engaged colored girls as elevator operators.

Louisville: The influence of the British coal strike is being felt in the Kentucky coal mines, where wages have been increased during the past few weeks and there is a demand for colored miners.

Milwaukee: A large drug store in this city employed a colored man as

head of its stock department, two colored men have been employed by a large shoe store, and 15 chamber maids have been placed in a new hotel. Conditions generally are greatly improved in Milwaukee and factories are showing signs of returning to their normal schedules.

Boston: Eight openings for colored men have been made at the new Ford Plant by the Boston Urban League.

News release - January 15th, 1927

*Urban League*

*H.H.K.*

URBAN LEAGUE REPORTS ON INDUSTRY FOR DECEMBER

Bulletin No. 10 of the Industrial Relations Department of the National Urban League summarizes employment conditions throughout the country as follows:

GENERAL CONDITIONS

Labor advisors throughout the country are reporting a slowing up in industry following the holiday rush. Missouri, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Kentucky, Ohio, Illinois, and Florida are all feeling this depression. From Chicago word comes that "the industrial situation has come almost to the acute stage". Laborers are being laid off there and only temporary work is available. Fort Wayne's "outlook in employment for January is rather gloomy" and Minneapolis finds the usual seasonal depression coupled with a disinclination to hire Negroes.

MIGRATION

Brooklyn notes an influx of southern migrants, especially from the Carolinas. Many of the men have not sufficient industrial experience to fit into jobs that are open and therefore drift aimlessly from city to city until they are without funds.

Laborers are coming to Chicago from all sections of the country. There is no movement away from the city.

Hot Springs, Arkansas, also reports incoming workers.

NOTEWORTHY INCIDENTS

✓ The U. S. Department of Labor has released two significant incidents concerning Palmyra, New Jersey and Washington, D. C.:

Palmyra, N. J. - In this city there is located an enameling factory, which when it was incorporated four years ago had a capital stock amounting to \$125,000. This plant is owned and operated by an entirely colored personnel which includes skilled and unskilled workers and a force of twenty-five experts. They manufacture an enamel sign that is virtually indestructible and are preparing to install a furnace adapted to the manufacture of kitchen utensils. Orders have been filled from points as far distant as Porto Rico.

✓ Washington, D. C. A novel and successful experiment in the form of a building trades school is being carried on here. Bricklaying, plastering, cement work and tile setting are being taught daily to a class of 15 white and 16 colored apprentices. The actual course may be covered in three months, with an additional month of practical experience on an actual job. Up to the present time 41 students have

News release - January 15th, 1927

-2-

completed the course and are now at work on jobs at wages of from \$10 to \$18 per day. The school apparently meets a long felt need as a substitute for apprenticeships.

Beacon, N. J. - From April until September the dozen brickyards in and around Beacon give employment to more than a thousand colored men. During the fall and winter not more than one hundred men are employed. There has been trouble among the men during the busy summer season, due largely to a lack of recreational facilities and the promiscuous manner in which men are hired. Plans are under way to remedy these conditions.

#### FAVORABLE CONDITIONS REPORTED

Boston, Mass. - The Boston Urban League has been quite successful in placing clerical workers in desirable positions. It also has placed two workers in the publicity department of the Boston Civic League.

Brooklyn, N. Y. - The Y. M. C. A. reports a placement in a "very desirable position" as shipping clerk. A boy was also given employment by the New York Times in a department where there has been no opportunity for a colored boy heretofore.

The Urban League is supplying the first ten colored workers for one factory and will furnish workers for a factory which plans to add 150 to its present force of 60 Negroes, making its entire personnel colored. This company has found Negro labor efficient in three other cities.

Los Angeles, Cal. - A chain grocery store corporation has hired two men as clerks with assurances that they are in line to be made managers of the stores in which they are working.

URBAN LEAGUE REPORTS ON INDUSTRY FOR FEBRUARY

*Urban League*

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Chicago Has Bread-Line- Bricklayers work on John D. Rockefeller's Apartment For Negroes--Union Labor Appeals to Colored Workers.

\*\*\*\*

Bulletin #12 of the Industrial Relations Department of the National Urban League summarizes employment conditions throughout the country as follows:

General Conditions Unfavorable.

There is little deviation in the reports for February from the general widespread unemployment which all large cities are facing. The seniority rule in industrial plants usually forces Negroes out of work first and causes more suffering among them than among other groups. In Buffalo, where appeals from Negroes for help are largely in excess of the normal number, this condition obtains. Chicago was still running a breadline and is reported to be in a "serious state". Here the situation is aggravated by the incoming of workers from neighboring cities and from the South. In Pine Bluff conditions were generally dull and laborers worked part-time in the mills. Charlotte, North Carolina had similar experiences. The larger cities in Missouri felt the effects of the industrial slump, and in Harrisburg a general depression in the iron and steel plants was observed. Newark reported losses in personal service situations because of the substitution of white servants for colored.

Favorable Conditions.

There were occasional bright spots even in some cities which were hard hit by unemployment. For instance, the construction of the new traffic bridge over the Mississippi River gave employment to 14 unskilled Negro laborers, in Cape Girardeau, Mo., and in Austin, Texas the erection of large office buildings gave employment to a goodly number of Negroes. In Fort Wayne, Indiana the construction of three large buildings provided occupation for 40 laborers and the Fort Wayne Rolling Mills increased its working week from three to five days. In New

York City a Bank has hired a colored messenger and junior clerk with assurances of promotion. In this city also 15 colored Bricklayers, helpers and laborers were among the 100 employees working on the apartment building in process of construction by John D. Rockefeller, Jr., for Negroes on Seventh Avenue and 149th Street. In New York also work for women was more plentiful than for men who have felt the effect of the curtailment in subway construction. A leather goods factory in St. Louis which hired its first colored worker in January, called for 40 additional workers in February to handle a night shift. However difficulty was experienced by the Urban League of that city in finding women to accept night employment.

#### Labor Union.

Reported instances indicate that sentiment favoring Negro membership in Labor Union is still on the increase. This is evident from an article in "Labor Age", one of the foremost labor journals of the country, by Thomas L. Dabney, entitled "Negro Labor at the Cross-Roads." This article has awakened a keen interest in the potential strength of Negro workers and the magazine has made plans to continue this discussion in a way to attract the attention of the devotees of labor. In Charlotte, North Carolina differences in the pay between colored and white bricklayers were adjusted and the Negro plasterers have gone back to work. A committee of the Women's Trade Union League is vigorously pushing an organization of laundry workers in New York City to include colored employees who are said to be in excess of ten thousand. An organizer has been put on salary to arouse their interest and secure membership.

# NEW YORK URBAN LEAGUE, Inc.

FOR SOCIAL SERVICE AMONG NEGROES

202-204 WEST 136TH STREET, NEW YORK CITY

TELEPHONE: EDGEcombe } 9600  
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*N.Y.C.*  
*Do you think your office should make a brief survey of laundry workers in New York?*

Mr. Karl F. Phillips,  
Commissioner of Conciliation,  
Department of Labor,  
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Phillips:

Your releases do prove quite interesting. The particular one on Negro Laundry Workers I feel should lay the basis for more intensive statistical work. As I mentioned in my other letter, there has been a large increase in the number of Negro Laundry Workers in New York,--just how much, we do not know. We do know however, that where Negro workers have replaced White ones, there has been a lowering in the wage scale along with several other work standards.

I have been wanting to get into the laundry situation and find out just how many are employed, what they do, how much they receive, the turn-over, attitudes of employer--and the like. This cannot be done unless you have some governmental official body behind you. I think the time is ripe for such a study. I should like to see it done.

I think it would be well if some representative of your Department could come to New York and help get this thing under way. I would be very glad to cooperate with him, in fact I have been on the verge of asking an appointment from you with the authority of the Department that I could get into it myself. Either of these plans would suit me.

Sincerely yours,

*Ira De A. Reid,*

Ira De A. Reid,  
Industrial Secretary.

IDR:RB

*K. F. Phillips*

# NEW YORK URBAN LEAGUE, Inc.

FOR SOCIAL SERVICE AMONG NEGROES  
202-204 WEST 136TH STREET, NEW YORK CITY

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JAMES H. HUBERT  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
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L. HOLLINGSWORTH WOOD

Mr. Karl F. Phillips,  
Commissioner Conciliation,  
Department of Labor,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Phillips:

Should you plan to come to New York  
within the next two weeks, I think you will find  
me in my office.

I shall be very glad to go over plans  
for the Laundry Workers with you.

Sincerely yours,

Ira De A. Reid,  
Industrial Secretary.

IDR:RB

NEWS RELEASE: FEBRUARY 1929  
INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS DEPT.  
T. ARNOLD HILL, DIRECTOR

BULLETIN #34

The Industrial Relations Department of the National Urban League of which T. Arnold Hill is Director, has released the following bulletin for February:

While unemployment continues to exist, evidences of activity in various parts of the country indicate that conditions are growing better. On the other hand Missouri and Illinois report that labor conditions are not so good. In Kansas City public opinion has been aroused and a Negro newspaper is conducting a public written forum on industrial trends in the city. Toledo, Ohio reports that the employment situation was better during February than it has been for the past eighteen months. Opportunities for power machine operators are increasing. Chicago offers opportunity for operators and lamp-shade makers. Demand for operators in Los Angeles is so great that the Industrial Department of the Los Angeles Urban League has started a school for the instruction of women in this trade.

#### G A I N S

In San Antonio, Texas two inspectors were placed in the Health Department; in Kansas City and St. Louis several men were placed in the Chevrolet Assembly Plants; a goodly number of Negroes were employed in two new theatres which opened recently in Philadelphia and Toledo; in Newark union labor men are finding employment in the building trades; Negroes were replaced in a large hotel in Atlantic City and our Industrial Associate states that "we have more calls for help from hotels than we can fill"; in Chicago a chemist was employed during the month and opportunities opened for experienced foundry men as molders; Cincinnati reports that a young colored man has been employed in the Public Relations Department of a large bank; in Des Moines an accountant was placed in the Treasurer's office and the hotels and office buildings employed more Negroes during the month than usual.

#### L O S S E S

A large hotel in Chicago dismissed its 68 colored waiters for whites and two filling station attendants were discharged; nearly 300 men were laid off at the Ford Plant in Newark; in Louisville several hundred Negroes were discharged temporarily from a large tobacco firm; in Springfield, Ill. several brickyards and mines shut down; in St. Louis and Los Angeles two large meat packing industries laid off over a hundred laborers and butchers, and a large press brick company in St. Louis laid off 100 men.

#### ORGANIZED LABOR

In Newark the advantage which union workers seem to have over non-union workers

has caused the Negro to give serious thought to organized labor. This is indicated by the painter's of Newark applying for a charter to organize a painter's union. Porters and waiters are endeavoring to organize a union in Des Moines, Ia. It is reported that hotel owners are backing their employees in their efforts to unionize.

M I G R A T I O N

There is a movement of Negroes from Lansing to Flint and Saginaw; and Detroit, Atlantic City, Brooklyn, Los Angeles and Springfield, Illinois report migration into the city.



April 11, 1927.

Mr. Ira De A. Reid,  
Industrial Secretary,  
New York Urban League, Inc.,  
202 West 136th Street,  
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Reid:

I shall be in New York for a few days, shortly after Easter,  
and shall be glad to discuss the laundry survey with you at that  
time.

Yours sincerely,

Earl S. Phillips,  
Commissioner of Conciliation.

4

## News Release

### UBAN LEAGUE REPORTS ON INDUSTRY FOR APRIL

Bulletin No. 14 of the Industrial Department of the National Urban League summarizes employment conditions as follows:

#### General Conditions

Employment conditions showed considerable improvement over what they were the previous month. This is particularly true of the iron and steel industry, the building trades, shipping, out door activities road building and even the textile industry. Predictions for the spring and summer, based upon signs of improvement which began to appear in April, are encouraging for the country as a whole.

#### The Flood Area

From the flood area in which 80% of the sufferers are said to be Negroes there appeared no wide spread migration into the north as was predicted. While there are indications and correspondence pointing to an exodus to northern industrial centers because of the devastation which the flood has caused in agricultural regions in which large numbers of Negroes live, such a movement will probably not be observed, if at all, until the victims have had chance to recover from shock and deprivations they suffered. In St. Louis, Cleveland and Chicago there have already come to the notice of welfare agencies enough instances indicating the arrival of new citizens from the flood area to warrant special efforts for their employment and care.

A rumor that camps of Negro men and women, bent upon leaving the south to take up residence in the north, were detained by public and private authorities against their will, could not be substantiated. Bulletins from the area tell of considerable restlessness, but do not indicate any approaching unified conviction that the anticipated number will exchange their southern agricultural habitats for residence in industrial sections of the north.

#### Favorable Conditions

The favorable conditions reported are those which refer to the return of workers to the jobs they held before the depression forced them out of employment and from a larger number of reports than usual there was but one account of the accession of a new field or a new job. This was in Chicago where 14 colored workers part of a 65% Negro force in a factory that manufactures roofing materials, were placed on machines workers of this race had never before run. In Milwaukee about three hundred men were placed back on jobs they were dismissed from in the winter when employment conditions generally were poor. In parts of the south and in many points in the north increased building activities took up the slack of unemployed workers. This was true particularly in Baltimore, Chicago, Winston-Salem, Jefferson City, Tulsa and Fort Wayne.

NEWS RELEASE: APRIL 1929  
INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS DEPT.  
NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE

BULLETIN #35

SHIFTING OF JOBS CONTINUES  
HILL RETURNS FROM VISIT SOUTH  
INCIDENTS OF PROGRESS CITED

The April bulletin of the Industrial Relations Department of the National Urban League carries a statement on employment in the South from its Director, T. Arnold Hill, and gives a number of instances of new positions occupied by Negroes. Mr. Hill has just returned from a six weeks tour of the Southeast. His visit was made to ascertain changes in occupations caused by increased industrial activity of the South. His mission took him into the states of North and South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Kentucky.

"There is no longer any such thing as a Negro job" said Mr. Hill. Continuing he said "white people are doing what once only Negroes did, and Negroes are going into industry and business, making it impossible to estimate the material disadvantage of replacement. In North and South Carolina they are not the operators of looms in textile mills, but the immense plants that have been constructed by capital from the North have provided jobs for janitors, truckers, draymen and casual laborers around these mills. In other industries they do similar work which offers at least the probability for advancement to more remunerative positions as the plants grow.

"I found no great suffering as result of the loss of jobs. On the other hand I did find that the taking of traditional Negro places, not because of prejudice but because economic necessity left no room for choice, had led to serious thinking on the part of wage-earners, who were more labor conscious today than ever before. Realizing that they are in competition with rural whites who are willing to accept menial work which city whites once refused, Negroes are resisting with the sure weapons of proficiency, regularity, diversified occupations and initiative.

GAINS IN OTHER PLACES

The most significant gains in diversified employment for March are reported from Chicago. A new department store has opened there with 38 colored saleswomen, 60 per cent of the working force. A garment factory installed Negro operators, and another salesman has been added to the force of a furniture store. A Chicago candy company employed 200 girls, making its first venture in Negro help.

Other cities also report gains in skilled and semi-skilled pursuits. In Los Angeles women continue to enter the garment industry in small numbers, and a skilled operator from New York was offered the position of floorlady in a factory employing Mexican operators. A steel and machinery plant in Minneapolis has "let down the bars" to skilled Negro workers and has employed its first Negro machinist, while the manufacturers of a popular motor car have taken on three skilled men in that city. A new grocery with a Negro manager and several employees has been opened in Kansas City. Many gardeners have secured work in Springfield, Ill. The Industrial Department of the St. Louis Urban League reports that the demand for skilled and semi-skilled workers in manufacturing and the building trades reached the highest point for the year in March, constituting 11 per cent of the total demand. A famous hotel in Atlantic City installed a corps of Negro waiters when the European waiters went on strike on the eve of the Easter rush. A downtown chain drug store in Philadelphia has installed three soda fountain attendants.

Urban League

THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION AND LABOR SUPPLY

Many Negroes went to Detroit in March, but the Urban League of that City warns against further influx. "There are no jobs", the League reports. St. Louis, however, reports employment on the up-grade and a definite movement of labor into the city, especially from the rural districts of neighboring states and Missouri. Philadelphia notes a falling off in arrivals and steady employment in construction work for many Negroes already there. Many Negroes have been employed in repairing streets in Des Moines, Denver and Hot Springs, Ark., and in Omaha the resumption of street railway and building construction has improved employment possibilities. The unemployment situation is reported as acute in Richmond, Virginia, with Negroes leaving the city in search of work.

Employment in the foundries of Chicago showed an increase but in other fields, "increased unemployment gave employers of common laborers and day workers opportunity to offer lower wages than the regular scale".

In Kansas City there is a noticeable influx of both white and colored workers. Negroes in Kansas City are still bringing pressure to bear on public opinion for "more and better jobs".

NEWS RELEASE: APRIL 1939  
INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS DEPT.

BULLETIN #36

The following release was made through the Department of Industrial Relations of the National Urban League of which T. Arnold Hill is Director:

Employment reports for April present a brighter outlook in diversified occupations and a spirit of optimism is observed. Of the twenty-one cities which supplied us with information, only four reported important losses for April. However, it would be fallacious to say that "all is well". The mechanization of industry, removal of industry to the South and the exclusion of Negroes from unions will doubtlessly cause the Negro to suffer. It is a foregone conclusion that Negroes in the South, even when they are members of unions, must work for lower wages than whites. In North and South Carolina, Jacksonville, Savannah and Birmingham whites may be seen driving express wagons, portering, cleaning streets and as scavengers - all jobs formerly done by Negroes.

An employment committee was organized in Des Moines in connection with the Interracial Commission in an endeavor to open employment to Negroes. A colored Chamber of Commerce was organized in Jefferson City to assist in securing jobs for Negroes and to promote Negro business. A survey of economic and industrial conditions of Negroes was made in Denver by Ira De A. Reid, Director of the Department of Research of the National Urban League.

Recently the Women's Federation discussed industry in Washington, the National Urban League devoted a four day conference at Louisville to "Present Trends in Employment", and the second Fact Finding Conference at Durham was forced by almost every speaker to consider some phase of the Negro's economic life. The bristling sessions of the Dining Car Waiters' Association, just closed in New York, reflected this new awakening, while the perseverance of the Pullman Porters, encouraged by their A. F. of L. affiliation keeps the relationship of Negroes to trade unionism constantly before the public. An all day household employees conference in Chicago, attended by more than two hundred, is a poignant illustration of new thought in a field to which custom and tradition have assigned the second largest number of Negro wage earners.

#### G A I N S

A toy factory added a number of girls to its force in Newark; Baltimore reports a slight increase in employment due to opening of building trades; in Spartanburg a new syrup factory opened, employing seven Negroes and six whites, and in a competitive bid on dismantling a building the job was given to a Negro, and he made good using twenty others. In Philadelphia employment is on the upgrade, especially in building and improvement projects; Chicago reports that a large chain store increased its number of colored clerks, another company opened a branch with Negro employees and still another with seven employees, and foundries offered added openings for experienced molders. In Denver a large automobile assembling plant agreed to experiment with the employment of colored workers in the plant and has already put three to work. They will be trained in the technical details of the work and from time to time others will be added if these prove efficient.

*Urban League*

In Pine Bluff, Fort Wayne and Austin a large number of Negroes were employed in construction work; an automobile factory in Lansing employed several Negroes. This is its first effort in using Negro labor. Toledo reports that the employment situation in general is much better and forty new industrial concerns were added to Toledo during the past year. Street, road and building construction are offering work to Negroes in Buffalo, and the opening of New York Central passenger station will give new openings in unskilled employment. Two Negroes were appointed to the Fire Department in St. Paul and there is a great demand for domestic workers which is difficult to fill because of the low wages offered. In St. Louis the demand for skilled and unskilled workers in diversified employment reached the highest peak for the past nine months. A new plant opened in Canton, employing 14 molders and 50 laborers. The company is considering some Negroes as apprentice molders.

#### LOSSES

The tendency to replace Negroes with Filipinos in apartments in Los Angeles continues. [ 300 Negroes were laid off in the clay and glass establishments in St. Louis while inventory and repairs are being made. The closing of the Chamber of Commerce in Buffalo relieves a crew of 20 waitresses, cashier and kitchen help of jobs. Pittsburgh experienced a large loss in mining, approximately 200 Negroes having lost out because of a decrease in the price of coal.

#### MIGRATION

Newark and Brooklyn report a movement of labor into the city, particularly of the unskilled type from the South. Spartanburg reports that a few Negroes have gone back to the farm. Many brickmasons have migrated into Lexington and our Industrial Associate of that city warns against further influx. The precarious situation of mining in Pittsburgh has caused a migration of Negroes from one mine to another.

#### UNIONS

Albert Weisbord, Secretary of the National Textile Workers' Union announced that permanent Southern headquarters would be operated for the union in Charlotte, and pleaded for the inclusion of Negroes in the union. He told the strikers that if the drive is to succeed it is absolutely necessary for Negroes to be admitted on equal footing with the whites.

# NEW YORK URBAN LEAGUE, Inc.

FOR SOCIAL SERVICE AMONG NEGROES  
202-204 WEST 136TH STREET, NEW YORK CITY

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May 9, 1927

Mr. Karl F. Phillips,  
Commissioner of Conciliation,  
Department of Labor,  
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Phillips:-

A few days ago when you were in New York, you promised to advise me as to the possibility for having a study of the Laundry Workers in this city made. Lest this matter has escaped your attention, I am writing to know what are the possibilities since you have returned to Washington.

Trusting that this study will be made possible under the supervision of the Department of Labor, I am

Very truly yours,

*Ira De A. Reid*  
Ira De A. Reid,  
Industrial Secretary.

IDR:RB

May 10, 1927.

Mr. Ira De A. Reid,  
Industrial Secretary, New York Urban League, Inc.,  
202 West 136th St.,  
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Reid:

By no means have I forgotten the laundry matter; nevertheless, I am very glad to have your letter of yesterday. I have been quite ill ever since my return from the West and am just beginning again to enjoy the privilege of seeing the clear blue skies once more.

I shall submit the laundry matter as a departmental request to the Secretary within the next few days. Like you, I sincerely hope that the Department may see fit to approve the plans upon which we agreed when I was in your office.

Thanking you for your courtesies, I am

Sincerely yours,

Earl S. Phillips,  
Commissioner of Conciliation.

News Release

URBAN LEAGUE REPORTS ON INDUSTRY FOR MAY

Bulletin No. 15 of the Industrial Department of the National Urban League summarizes employment conditions as follows:

While reports from New Jersey, Ohio, Illinois, Missouri, Texas, Maryland, Virginia, Oregon, Michigan, Indiana, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Arkansas, Texas, Massachusetts and New York showed little change in the employment status of Negro wage-earners--a situation not unlike others experienced throughout the country--some little advance was reported for both Negro women and men. The notable improvements were reported from Cleveland, Plainfield and Boston. The continuous rainfall interfered with the usual outdoor spring activities, but did not prevent the employment of many men in parts of the middle west which had experienced a long period of unemployment.

Favorable Conditions

In Cleveland there was a "slow but steady increase in opportunities offered men in skilled work." Two openings in positions formerly held by other workers were reported and placements showed a decided increase over those of the previous month. In Plainfield, N. J. a concern manufacturing metal toys gave employment to 50 colored girls, and reported that their work was very satisfactory. In Boston 25 new openings were obtained in hotels and 15 factory placements were secured in jobs that had not been filled by Negroes. From Texas word came that Negro labor was regaining many places occupied by Mexicans, and many cities reported activity in the building trades.

Miscellaneous

The American Federation of Musicians protested against and thereby removed discriminatory practices against Negroes in dining rooms and hotels during its annual session in Baltimore. Several years ago this same organization's insistence brought about similar results in St. Louis.

Running only three months, a local labor union of longshoremen in Newark has a membership of 1,500. The industrial problems of Negroes living in Buffalo are promised attention by the newly formed Urban League of which William L. Evans, a former Industrial Secretary of the Chicago Urban League, is the Executive Secretary. Industry in the Pittsburgh district was enhanced when A. C. Thayer, formerly of the Atlanta Urban League, took charge of the Pittsburgh League which had been without an Executive almost a year.

July 26, 1927.

Mr. Ira De A. Reid,  
Industrial Secretary, New York Urban League, Inc.,  
202 West 136th St.,  
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Reid:

Referring to our correspondence relating to a proposed survey of laundry workers in New York, please note, on pages 4 and 5 of the enclosed News Letter of the Women's Bureau, that a survey has been made of "Hours and Earnings of Women Laundry Workers." Under separate cover, I am sending you a copy of the Industrial Bulletin referred to in the news release.

I shall be glad to have your reaction as to whether or the entire information covers, practicably, the matters we had in mind when I conferred with you in New York. If so, further steps in the laundry field would seem to be a useless duplication of work; if not, kindly advise us further and your suggestions will have my fullest interest.

In case you desire to correspond with the Department concerning the specific items dealt with in the present survey, I suggest that you write to Miss Mary Anderson, Director, Women's Bureau, Department of Labor, Washington, D. C.

With kind regards, I am

Yours cordially,

Karl P. Phillips,  
Commissioner of Conciliation.



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FOR SOCIAL SERVICE AMONG NEGROES

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JOHN W. CRAWFORD  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

April 24, 1928.

Hon. James J. Davis, Secretary  
U. S. Department of Labor,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Hon. Davis:

Sometimes during the month of June our organization will hold an "All Day Conference for the study of the Negro in Industry." The purpose of the Conference is twofold: (1) To arouse and register public opinion as to the adaptability, introduction, and improvement of Negro labor in industrial plants. (2) To make closer contact with the employer in order to discuss more frankly the problem of wages, hours, working conditions, and opportunities for advancement.

The program has not been definitely worked out. Would you and a member of your staff deliver two of the main addresses during the Conference? Subjects for discussions will be formulated within a short time.

Any suggestions that you feel free to make will be very much appreciated. Please let me know as soon as it is consistent with your office as to whether or not you can accept the invitation.

Yours very sincerely,

*John W. Crawford*  
John W. Crawford,  
Executive Secretary

JWC/C

April 27, 1938.

Mr. John W. Crawford,  
Executive Secretary, Atlanta Urban League,  
239 Auburn Avenue, N. W.,  
Atlanta, Ga.

My dear Mr. Crawford:

The Honorable the Secretary of Labor has referred your letter of April 24th to me for attention.

The Secretary regrets that he will be unable to attend your "All-Day Conference for the study of the Negro in Industry," to be held "some time during the month of June." Inasmuch as I may be in the State of Georgia, upon official business, some time during the month of June, the Secretary has instructed me to correspond with you, with the view, perhaps, of representing him at your Conference, provided the date fits in with my prospective itinerary.

I would be pleased, therefore, if, when you have decided upon the date of your conference, you would advise me, at the same time stating whether or not my attendance would be acceptable to your Conference. This is merely a tentative suggestion, inasmuch as it may be that pressing official business may interfere with my coming.

In the meantime, kindly accept my best wishes for your continued success; and should you happen to see my kind friends, Forrester B. Washington and Jesse O. Thomas, kindly remember me kindly to them.

Yours very truly,

Karl W. Phillips,  
Commissioner of Conciliation.

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May 7, 1928.

Mr. Karl F. Phillips,  
Commissioner of Conciliation,  
U. S. Department of Labor,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Phillips:

It was very kind of you to offer your services to us. It appears that it is going to be impossible for us to hold the Conference until Fall, at which time we shall be pleased to have you with us. You will hear from us later regarding the program and the date.

Instead of having the Conference just now, we are going to ascertain more facts regarding the problem of Labor and Industrial Relations. We are attempting a cursory survey in June, and if you are in the State at that time, we should be pleased to have you join us in our fact-finding effort. Would it be possible for you to give us five or ten days of your valuable time during the month of June?

Thanking you for an early reply, I am

Yours very truly,

*John W. Crawford*  
John W. Crawford,  
Executive Secretary.

JWC/C

May 11, 1928.

Mr. John W. Crawford,  
Executive Secretary, Atlanta Urban League,  
239 Auburn Avenue, N. E.,  
Atlanta, Ga.

My dear Mr. Crawford:

This will acknowledge the receipt of your kind letter of May 7th.

I am reasonably sure that I can join you in your conference in the Autumn, and beg to thank you for the invitation. You will kindly advise me later, when you have set upon the exact date.

I want to congratulate you upon deciding to make a survey preliminary to holding conference. I think a deal more of good would come out of all such conferences as you propose, if preliminary surveys were made, thus doing away with much opinion and bringing out potent facts which enable conferees to shape a definite program and aim which they seek to carry out.

If possible, I shall be glad to put in a couple of days with you in the month of June, giving you the benefit of whatever experiences we have had in this office in endeavoring to adduce facts relating to the general subject of Negro labor. No doubt you will also confer with my good friend Mr. Forrester B. Washington, whom, through a long period of friendly and official contact I have come to hold in intimate regard as one of the country's foremost surveyors of industrial and social conditions affecting the Negro.

With kind regards, and with assurances that this office will be glad to cooperate with you wholesomely in your good work, I am

Yours very truly,

Earl W. Phillips,  
Commissioner of Conciliation.

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May 21, 1928.

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Mr. Karl F. Phillips,  
Commissioner of Conciliation,  
Department of Labor,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Phillips:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of May 11, and  
reply to my wire of May 15.

I appreciate very much the encouragement you have given me in  
my efforts here. I am looking forward to a fine demonstration  
of cooperation from your office. Will keep you abreast of  
our program and efforts.

Yours very truly,

*John W. Crawford*  
John W. Crawford,  
Executive Secretary

JWC/C

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October 25, 1928.

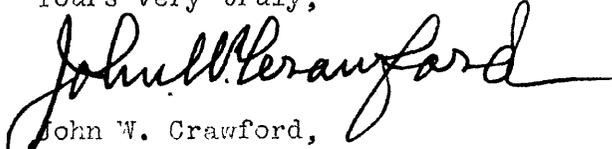
Mr. Karl F. Phillips,  
Commissioner of Conciliation,  
Department of Labor,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Phillips:

We contemplate holding our Industrial Conference on December Tuesday 18th. and Wednesday 19th. Aside from delivering one of the main addresses, I should be pleased to have you spend one or two days with us prior to the conference. Would you be kind enough to discuss the subject? "The Problem of the Negro in Industry to the General Economic Problem of Modern Living." If for any reasons you feel that this subject should be revised or that you would rather deal with different subject-matter please do not hesitate to make the suggestion.

I hope that you will be able to serve us as we have been depending upon you. Please let me hear from you as soon as it is consistent with your office.

Yours very truly,

  
John W. Crawford,  
Executive Secretary.

November 26, 1928.

Mr. John W. Crawford,  
Executive Secretary, Atlanta Urban League,  
239 Auburn Avenue, N. E.,  
Atlanta, Ga.

My dear Mr. Crawford:

Extreme pressure of work and frequent absence from the city during October and the first half of November made it impossible for me to make an earlier reply to your kind invitation to be present at your Industrial Conference, December 18-19th, 1928. I regret the delay very much; and in the meantime have received no further word from you as to whether or not you definitely fixed the dates named.

Even now, the nearness of your tentative date to the Christmas season, and continued pressure of work in connection with one or two major industrial matters, make it a bit difficult for me to state, with certainty, that I shall be present. I can probably arrange, however, to have a representative of this office present, in case I cannot come myself, to take part in the conference.

Kindly let me know whether you have definitely decided upon the date December 18-19, and I shall again consider the matter with the officials of the Department and determine whether or not I can be present.

Please give my regards to Mr. Forrester E. Washington and ask him to write me at his leisure.

Yours very truly,

Karl F. Phillips,  
Commissioner of Conciliation.

ATLANTA URBAN LEAGUE  
FOR SOCIAL SERVICE AMONG NEGROES

238 AUBURN AVENUE, N. E.

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December 8, 1928.

Mr. Karl F. Phillips,  
Commissioner of Conciliation,  
Department of Labor,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Phillips:

In reply to your kind favor of November 26th, would state that the nearness of the Christmas season and conflict of schedule of some of our indispensable participants, we again have had to postpone our Industrial Conference.

I note in your letter that the tentative date would not be convenient for you. By all means we want you at the Conference. Our Board of Directors have a high regard for your experience and opinions along this line. I shall try my utmost to give you a long enough notice in order that you can include the conference in your schedule.

On Friday December 21, we are going to hold a round table on "Unemployment". If you or any of your associates plan to be in this vicinity at that time, we cordially invite you to join with us. The meeting will be held at the Butler Y. M. C. A.

I have passed your greetings to Mr. Forrester B. Washington, and he is among those who anticipate your coming to Atlanta.

Yours very truly,

*John W. Crawford*  
John W. Crawford,  
Executive Secretary.

JWC/S

ONE OF THE AGENCIES FINANCED BY THE ATLANTA COMMUNITY CHEST

File Carefully - "Urban League (Atlanta)"

URBAN LEAGUE REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT  
SHOWS HEALTHY SIGNS - MANY GROUPS INTERESTED

---

Developments in industry during January showed no marked improvements but a number of incidents gave promise of better days ahead for Negro workers, according to the latest bulletin of the National Urban League's Industrial Relations Department, presided over by T. Arnold Hill. Investigations in many quarters, new jobs of significant import, agitation respecting labor union affiliation, and committees actively campaigning to expand the occupational horizon of Negro workers are among the bright signs that appeared during last month. There were losses but the gains, though few in number, were significant. In some places a large number of colored workers out of employment had a depressing effect upon the entire Negro population; whereas in others efforts of committees and councils have revived hope and confidence.

In New York the Harlem Housewives League, formed by the New York Urban League, was organized with sub-committees on fair weights, prices, publicity, and employment. The women are visiting stores asking that Negroes be employed, circulating petitions among housewives, calling upon Harlem merchants to give employment, and urging that patronage be given by Harlem housewives to stores of the Colored Mercantile Association. A large department store has installed colored elevator operators, an innovation which is likely to be repeated by other 125th Street stores that will be concentrated upon in this drive for larger opportunity for Negro workers. Two chain food stores have installed colored managers, and another store has promised to give opportunities of an unusual character to women.

Of far reaching importance is the installation of colored clerks and messenger boys serving a branch office of the Western Union Telegraph Company, culminating years of labor on the part of many agencies in New York City.

In Chicago the National Negro labor Conference, sponsored by the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, enlisted the support of national figures who exposed the essential dilemmas the Negro faces in his efforts to rise. The Rosenwald Fund began an investigation to check trends among Negro workers in important centers of the country. In this city also the sales field expanded to include sellers of clothing, lingerie and furniture.

The Durham Fact-finding Conference decided to devote its next conference to economic aspects of the race problem.

#### LABOR UNIONS

The practices of labor unions were exposed by Abram T. Harris and Elmer A. Carter in the February issue of Labor Age, while columnists and editors of Negro journals took up the cudgel on behalf of better treatment of colored workers by the trade union movement. In Pittsburgh attempts to recruit Negro drivers of taxicabs to take the places of striking whites met with failure. In Omaha union members and Negro workers in the building trades conferred over plans to improve the relationship between the two groups. In Buffalo a bitter fight between Negro and white musicians has resulted from the importation of out-of-town Negro orchestras in the city for dance halls in which Negro musicians are said to have the monopoly.

#### LOSSES

Losses were decisive in Richmond where unemployment approached the level of 1922 for workers of both races. Forty workers were laid off from a mail order house in Baltimore, and in Omaha sixteen waiters were replaced by white waiters because of "economy in administration." Detroit, which has long maintained a good employment record for Negroes is said to present a "terrible situation" and St. Louis complains of discharges from automobile companies, glass factories, cement companies, meat packing concerns and construction companies,

The Central Railroad Company of Georgia has discontinued porter service on eight of its fast trains between Atlanta and Albany, Georgia. The length of service of the discharged ranged from three to fifteen years. Reasons given were economic necessity and the hauling of few colored passengers.

Hotel employees were replaced by white workers in Kansas City where unemployment has produced an "hysteria." In Newport, Minn., both white and colored women were replaced by men. In Buffalo where 2,000 white workers marched upon the city hall demanding work, "unemployment has steadily increased since November." When the Brooklyn plant of a tobacco company moved South 176 Negro men were thrown out of employment. Wilmington, Del., witnessed the discharge of men from a car manufacturing company and a railroad shop. And in Charlotte, N. C. work is said to be at its "lowest ebb." In Jefferson City, Lansing, Minneapolis, Denver, Fort Wayne and Lexington, Kentucky, employment was reported at a standstill.

#### I N C R E A S E S

Social service positions increased during January because of the appointment of a junior probation officer in Baltimore, a case worker with the Associated Charities and a nurse with the Visiting Nurse Association of Omaha and a probation officer for the Kings County Court of New York.

Included among the gains reported were several minor but initial jobs in St. Louis, a deputy sheriff of Erie County, N. Y., cooks and porters in a railroad station restaurant in Des Moines and the return of some men unfairly discharged from the Ford Motor Company at Kearney, N. J. In Pittsburgh one hotel changed from white kitchen help to colored and the Atlantic and Pacific Tea Store employed a manager and two girl clerks. Conditions in the mines were reported stable, one company's payroll showing 2,274 Negroes employed, which represented twenty-two percent of the total employees, the same ratio as October 1929.

April 19, 1930

Honorable James J. Davis,  
Secretary of Labor and Chairman  
Federal Board for Vocational Education,  
Department of Labor  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

Your letter of April 5th conveying an endorsement of the work of the National Urban League and approval of what it is doing in the field of vocational direction is most encouraging to us. We accept it as coming from one whose knowledge of the problems of labor is beyond question and whose sacrifices in behalf of the workers of this country prove the sincerity of his utterances at all times.

We cherish your expressions of confidence and assure you that they will help us to carry on with this very difficult job of smoothing out the relation between Negro workers and the many problems that beset them in their efforts to make their labors count the most.

Very truly yours,

T. Arnold Hill,  
D I R E C T O R,

TAH:MVR

# NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE

FOR SOCIAL SERVICE AMONG NEGROES  
17 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY  
TELEPHONES: CALEDONIA 6534-6535

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MISS ELIZABETH WALTON

April 10, 1930

Dear Mr. Phillips: I have just sent Secretary Davis  
a letter in reply to his letter to  
me of April 5th. Enclosed is a copy. May I thank you  
for your continued efforts in our behalf?

Sincerely yours,

T. Arnold Hill  
D I R E C T O R .

TAH:MVR

Mr. Karl Phillips  
Department of Labor  
Washington, D. C.

# NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE

FOR SOCIAL SERVICE AMONG NEGROES  
1133 BROADWAY, ROOM 826  
~~17 MADISON AVENUE~~ NEW YORK CITY

TELEPHONES: ~~70-80001-80002-80003~~ CHELSEA 1838-39

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MISS ELIZABETH WALTON

May 13, 1930

*Return to  
Karl Phillips*

Col. F. Phillips, Esq.  
Commissioner of Conciliation  
Department of Labor  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Phillips:

I thank you for your commendation of our little booklet "Negro Workers", which you conveyed in your letter of April 22nd.

Mr. Connors has written me of your visit to Cleveland and I hope you enjoyed your visit as much as you were enjoyed. I wish you could come to our Conference in Buffalo announced as you will see on the enclosed. You could help us at one or two places on the program and I should be glad to list you as speaker if you can come. The subject is one that touches your field of labor and is broad enough for you to select an appropriate topic for your paper. Will you let me know at once for we shall go to press with the programs in a few days. A subject dealing with the participation of Negroes in disputes that have come up for conciliation by your bureau would be interesting.

Very sincerely yours,

*T. Arnold Hill*  
T. Arnold Hill  
DIRECTOR

TAH:EW

*50-71  
36.23  
19-68*

*13.45  
17.00  
15.75  
36.23*

May 14, 1930.

Mr. T. Arnold Hill,  
Director, Industrial Relations, National Urban League,  
Room 826, 1133 Broadway,  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Hill:

Nothing would please me more than to be able to accept your kindly invitation of May 13th to appear on the Urban League Conference program in Buffalo, June 3-6; and I would have gladly given this event preference had I but known a week or two earlier. As it is now, I am scheduled for Virginia, Western Pennsylvania and New York between this time and June 1; and these dates, together with the necessity with keeping in constant touch with affairs at the office prevent me, I regret, from accepting your generous invitation because of the sheer physical demands upon me for the next few weeks. I shall be most happy to join with you on some future occasion in any program that may be helpful to your work and that of the Urban League.

Wishing you a most successful conference, and with kindest personal regards, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

Karl F. Phillips,  
Commissioner of Conciliation.

TEL. CALEDONIA 6534-6535

NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE  
17 MADISON AVENUE  
NEW YORK CITY

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS  
T. ARNOLD HILL, DIRECTOR

May 16, 1930

Dear Mr. Phillips:

I am sorry you cannot come to our conference. I wish I could persuade you to do so, however, after leaving New York and if it is possible for you to reconsider and come it ~~is~~ is not too late to let me know.

I should like to see you when you come to New York.

Sincerely yours,



T. Arnold Hill,  
D I R E C T O R .

TAH:MVR

Mr. Karl Phillips  
Commissioner of Conciliation  
Department of Labor  
Washington, D. C.



VOCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES  
FOR NEGRO WORKERS

*to be discussed at*

The National Urban League Conference

June 3 to 6, 1930



BUFFALO, NEW YORK



# The Conference Theme



Taking advantage of the interest shown in the economic side of Negro life by Negroes themselves and inter-racial groups, this conference will deal principally with modern trends in vocational training and guidance and seek to point out how these may be made applicable to Negro workers.

Losing place in the occupations in which most of them have been engaged, Negro workers have been forced to seek employment in lines of work that have been closed to them. Here and there commendable progress has been made in this direction but such an objective must be preceded by preparation, a point of view which too often has not been realized by Negroes in their contention for equal opportunities in employment.

*Educational leaders, members of inter-racial bodies, labor sympathizers, employers, and any others interested are invited. Programs will be sent upon request. For information concerning the Conference write:*

EUGENE KINCKLE JONES, *Executive Secretary*  
NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE  
1133 Broadway  
New York, N. Y.

*For Hotel accommodations in Buffalo address:*  
WILLIAM L. EVANS, *Executive Secretary*  
BUFFALO URBAN LEAGUE  
357 William Street  
Buffalo, New York

# **The Negro Welfare Association**

(Cleveland Urban League)

of

CLEVELAND, OHIO

---

*The Twelfth Year Facing Some Problems*

of

*Human Welfare*

1918

— 1930

---

WILLIAM R. CONNERS

Executive Secretary

---

*Affiliated with the National Urban League*  
Member of Welfare Federation of Cleveland  
Supported through Community Fund

**SOME  
PROBLEMS  
FACED**

**ECONOMIC AND  
INDUSTRIAL**

Greater Economic  
Security  
Wider Industrial  
Opportunity  
Greater Conservation  
of Earnings  
Training for Service

**HEALTH**

More Effective  
Health Education for  
the Reduction of High  
Mortality and  
Morbidity Rates  
The Inclusion of the  
Colored Group in All  
City-Wide Health  
Movements

**HOUSING**

Improved and  
Adequate Housing  
Facilities

**DELINQUENCY**

Respect for the Law  
Prevention of  
Development of  
Criminality

**STEPS TOWARD THEIR SOLUTION**

Placed 6886 persons in 147 different kinds of work and 1065 in temporary positions.

Secured the placement of colored workers with 67 employers not hitherto using colored help.

Organized groups of workers to secure training and skill to develop greater efficiency of service as a basis for promotion in places where they are now employed.

Sponsored campaign for the promotion of thrift, economy and systematic saving.

Organized Health Study Committee to gather facts as a basis for program.

In co-operation with other health agencies, promoted the formation of committees to combat tuberculosis and venereal diseases.

Through a Health Educational Committee conducted campaigns for the promotion of better Health Habits, the prevention of disease and emphasized the gravity of the health problem with this group.

Held 77 health meetings at which health lectures were given and health literature was distributed.

Brought into greater participation the colored group in the observance of National Hospital Day, Cancer Week, the Campaign for Early Diagnosis for Tuberculosis and other city-wide health projects.

Promoted Home Ownership. Secured co-operation of landlord and tenant in improvement of houses occupied by colored tenants.

Through co-operation with city authorities had remedied flagrant cases of bad housing and bad sanitation.

Organized and Conducted a Big Sister and Big Brother Committee to work with predelinquent boys and girls.

Furnished supplementary parole supervision for 41 persons placed on probation and parole.

**COMMUNITY  
BETTERMENT**

The Beautifying and  
Keeping in Good  
State of Repair the  
Communities in  
Which Colored  
People Live.

**CO-OPERATION**

Co-operating with  
Other Agencies  
Working on the  
Problems of  
Colored People.

**INFORMATION  
SERVICE**

The Prevention of  
Misrepresentation  
and the Disseminating  
of Adequate and  
Accurate Information  
of Conditions Under  
Which Colored People  
Live and Work

**RACE RELATIONS**

The Improvement of  
the Relationship  
Between the Races  
and Maintaining the  
Fine Friendly Feeling  
of Goodwill and  
Square Dealing  
Which Has Existed  
Between the Various  
Groups in This  
Community and  
Bringing About the  
Proper Appreciation  
of the Contribution  
of Each to the Making  
of our Civilization

Conducted a year-round campaign to create beauty and better sanitation to prevent dilapidation in definite areas in which colored people live, to restore to their former state of repair properties which have become run-down and unsightly.

Worked with property owners, residents and the city authorities for this purpose.

Gave close co-operation in city clean-up campaigns.

Working with the Humane Society in solving the problems of dependent colored children.

Co-operating with the Society for the Blind in handling the problems of the colored blind.

Co-operated with 52 other agencies in handling the problems of colored persons.

Maintained a Bureau of Information regarding the colored people.

Gathered information as to extent of employment and types of work in which colored people are employed in the Cleveland district, also the types of businesses conducted by them and the extent of employment which these businesses afford.

Furnished information to government officials, social agencies, business firms, students and other individuals, both in and out of the city, who sought our office for reliable information regarding various phases of negro life.

Conducted interracial meetings.

The members of the staff have addressed group meetings and participated in interracial conferences.

Opportunity has been secured for speakers to address group meetings and artists have been secured for other meetings.

Furnished information for publicity purposes concerning the development and contribution of colored people to the city's growth.

---

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---

# NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE

FOR SOCIAL SERVICE AMONG NEGROES  
1133 BROADWAY, ROOM 828  
~~17 MADISON AVENUE~~ NEW YORK CITY

TELEPHONES: ~~CHAMBERS STREET~~ CHELSEA 1838-39

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GRAHAM R. TAYLOR  
W. R. VALENTINE  
MISS ELIZABETH WALTON

July  
28th  
1930

*V. M. G. X  
L. H. W.*

Dear Mr. Phillips: Our Los Angeles Urban League is anxious to get colored workers employed in the construction of Boulder Dam. Mr. Lester B. Granger, who is now our Secretary there, writes that he has been informed that laborers and mechanics will be employed directly by the contractors and not by the Government. He is, therefore, anxious to get in direct touch with the contractors and has written to ask if I can advise him of their names and addresses. Could you help me here by sending these to me, or giving me any suggestions which you think pertinent to the situation?

With kind regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

*T. Arnold Hill*  
T. Arnold Hill,  
D I R E C T O R.

TAH:MVR

Mr. Karl Phillips  
Department of Labor  
Washington, D. C.

July 29, 1930.

Mr. T. Arnold Hill,  
Director, Department of Industrial Relations,  
National Urban League,  
Room 826, 1133 Broadway,  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Hill:

I have your letter of July 25th in which you make inquiry concerning workers who may be employed in the construction of the Boulder Dam project.

I am glad to send you herewith two statements which have been made by the Commissioner of Reclamation, of the Department of the Interior, with regard to the Boulder Dam project. I believe you will find each statement self-explanatory. Together, they represent all the information which this office has in the premises just at the moment.

I certainly congratulate you and Mr. Granger in keeping in touch with the subject, particularly with reference to the possibility of placing colored workers on the job. I would be very glad to assist you and Mr. Granger in any way possible, and our entire staff, from the Secretary of Labor down, will be glad to do anything which may aid you in this fine effort. We have a Commissioner representative in California, and if, as Mr. Granger follows the matter up, he can get the list of immediate contractors, I would be glad, if you so wish, to have one of our western or coast representatives do all he may be in a position to do in connection with an endeavor to place an equitable number of colored workers.

With kindest personal regards and all good wishes,  
I am

Very sincerely yours,

Earl K. Phillips,  
Commissioner of Conciliation.

August 12, 1930.

Mr. Eugene Vinckle Jones,  
Executive Secretary, National Urban League,  
1133 Broadway,  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Jones:

I am certainly very grateful to you for the copy of "Negro Membership in American Labor Unions" which you so generously gave to me last week. Mr. Reid has put fine skill, research, and interpretation into this most interesting booklet, which will certainly be most valuable to all who have the opportunity of acquainting themselves with its contents.

I need not tell you again that this office is ever happy to serve you and your associates in any manner possible, and that I wish for you and your entire staff continued success and service.

With kindest personal regards and all good wishes,

I am

Sincerely yours,

Karl F. Phillips,  
Commissioner of Conciliation.

L. HOLLINGSWORTH WOOD  
Chairman

EUGENE KINCKLE JONES  
Executive Secretary

WILLIAM H. BALDWIN  
Secretary

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Treasurer

# OPPORTUNITY

PUBLISHED BY

THE NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE  
1133 BROADWAY, Room 826. NEW YORK

Telephones: CHELsea 1838-39

ELMER ANDERSON CARTER  
Editor

NOAH D. THOMPSON  
Business Manager

A JOURNAL OF NEGRO LIFE

August  
20th  
1930

Dear Dr. Phillips:

I am advised that you will attend the Conference on the Negro in Industry, sponsored by the Social Action Department of the National Catholic Welfare Conference and the Federated Colored Catholics of the United States in Detroit, Saturday, August 30th.

Mr. T. Arnold Hill, Director, Department of Industrial Relations of the National Urban League, was kind enough to give me a few copies of his pamphlet entitled "Negro Workers, A Drama of 5,000,000 Wage-Earners," a copy of which I am handing you herewith with the hope that it contains some information which you will appreciate having.

Should you desire more copies of this pamphlet you may order them direct from the National Urban League at the rate of ten cents per copy or twelve copies for \$1.00.

Very truly yours,

NDT:MVR

OPPORTUNITY

Dr. Karl F. Phillips  
Commissioner of Conciliation  
Department of Labor  
Washington, D. C.

August 21, 1930.

Mr. Noah D. Thompson,  
Business Manager, "Opportunity",  
Room 826, - 1133 Broadway,  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Thompson:

Thank you for your fine courtesy in sending me a copy of the Urban League's pamphlet entitled, "Negro Workers -- A Drama of 5,000,000 American Wage-Earners". Mr. Hill had already sent me a copy of this publication, which is certainly most instructive and interesting. Nevertheless, I appreciate very much the kindly forethought which prompted you to know that I would be much interested in its story.

Yes, I shall attend the Catholic Industrial Conference in Detroit, and hope that I may have the pleasure of meeting you and other friends of the Urban League and "Opportunity" while there.

With kindest personal regards and all good wishes,

I am

Sincerely yours,

Karl F. Phillips,  
Commissioner of Conciliation.

1

# Unemployment Among Negroes



*Activities of the National Urban League*

*Data on 25 Industrial Centers*



1

THE NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE

1133 Broadway, New York

November, 1930

UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG NEGROES  
ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE  
DATA ON 25 INDUSTRIAL CENTERS

Prepared by

T. Arnold Hill, Director  
Department of Industrial Relations

and

Ira De A. Reid, Director  
Department of Research and Investigations

THE NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE  
1133 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

November 1930

## F O R E W O R D

\*\*\*

In March, 1930, the National Urban League, for social service among Negroes, estimated that the number of unemployed Negroes was not less than 330,000. A re-check in October indicated that unemployment had not decreased during the intervening months, but, on the contrary, had increased. (See page 3.) The League's estimates are based upon carefully analyzed figures gathered from all sections of the country and surveys of unemployed people in several of the principal cities.

Moreover, the National Urban League, through the employment services of its branch offices, numbering forty-two, is in constant touch with the occupation problems of Negroes from Boston to Florida and from New York to Los Angeles. Coordination of the League's industrial activities is effected through an Industrial Relations' Department, located in the national office. This Department compiles frequent reports on industrial fluctuations affecting colored workers which are published in weekly papers read by Negroes, sent to agencies and individuals interested in this question and made accessible to applicants for employment who use the branch offices of the League. In 1929, the employment offices of the League served 72,000 male and female applicants of whom 25,000 were sent to places of employment. (The local branches of the League served an estimated population of 1,180,831.)

\*\*\*

## WHAT IS THE UNEMPLOYMENT SITUATION AMONG NEGROES?

### Earlier Figures

The League's March report on unemployment cited percentages of Negroes and whites unemployed in Buffalo and Philadelphia. The Buffalo figures showed 17.7 per cent unemployed among Negroes as compared with 10.8 per cent unemployed among the whites. The Philadelphia figures showed relatively half the proportion of Negro workers employed as compared with white workers. In one district 29.2 of the Negroes and 6.8 of the whites were unemployed because they could not find jobs. In one of the larger cities of South Carolina common laborers, chiefly Negroes, were in slight demand, at least 50 per cent of them being idle.

### The Present Situation

A re-check on the state of unemployment among Negroes in October showed that the situation was becoming quite acute. Reports from thirty-five affiliated free employment bureaus in urban centers throughout the country warranted the statement that the present unemployment crisis is "the severest test of the urban and industrial adjustment of the Negro worker since the recent migrations." Larger centers, such as Detroit, Cleveland, Chicago, St. Louis, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, and New York have been affected much more greatly than the smaller cities having no basic industries.

Employment statistics of twenty-five cities for the period January 1 to September 30, 1930 show a decrease of 34.5 per cent in the number of available jobs for Negroes and an increase of 39.9 per cent in the number of applicants over the same period for 1929. Percental decreases in

available jobs were noted as follows in larger cities:

Cleveland	62.1
Philadelphia	51.3
Chicago	50.1
Cincinnati	47.3
Brooklyn	21.4
New York	21.3
Pittsburgh	13.5

Meanwhile, the following data show the extent of unemployment in certain local fields:

Springfield, Illinois - Hundreds of transients are passing through the city going to and from Chicago, St. Louis, Gary, Detroit, Indiana and Columbus. The League branch reports that unemployment among Negroes in the city is about 60 per cent greater for the first nine months of 1930 than for the same period in 1929. "The industrial situation is bad. White girls have replaced colored men as janitors, elevator operators and as waiters during the past five years at a rapid pace. The Negro worker in Springfield is forced to become an occasional worker and to resort to the periodic labor that outsiders are able to get during the favorable seasons of the year."

Washington - The Salvation Army reports that the "unemployment situation is growing amongst the colored people, as our hotel, with a capacity of eighty is filled nightly to overflowing."

Wilmington, Delaware - The Chamber of Commerce estimates that there are 1,000 Negroes out of employment.

Cincinnati - It was found in May, 1929 that 5.9 per cent of the working

population, or approximately 9,360 were unemployed. Of that number Negroes constituted about 24.2 per cent or approximately 2,265 persons. Negroes are 7.5 per cent of the city's population. In May, 1930 8.2 per cent of the employable group were found to be unemployed, while 9.8 per cent were employed part-time. The total unemployed is estimated to be about 12,792 persons of whom 25 per cent were Negroes.

Negro applications	1929	-	2867
" "	1930	-	5262
Placements	1929	-	1101
" "	1930	-	1038

Gary - "It is estimated that 50 per cent of the unemployed persons are Negroes. Since Negroes constitute approximately 10 per cent of the population it may readily be seen how seriously they are affected. This large proportion is due partly to the fact that most of the Negro employees are common laborers, the first to be laid-off in depression. Skilled laborers are continued in service on a schedule of 1 - 2 - 3 days per week." The immediate future, it is stated, shows no signs for improvement.

Minneapolis - It is generally found that the unemployment situation is not so serious as in other sections of the country though many industries are operating on a 3 to 4 day a week plan. Negroes are working along with whites on some city projects, particularly street work that have been instituted as a means of relief, in both Minneapolis and St. Paul. There is no discrimination in private relief funds.

Philadelphia - The number of people applying for employment at that branch for the first nine months of 1930 exceeded by 30 per cent the total number of persons applying during the whole year of 1929. Some of this increase is due to the number of women applicants who have been forced to seek employment in ever increasing numbers, to help supplement the family income. This increase might also be due to the fact that the employment service is free to a goodly number of persons who heretofore patronized employment agencies and who have been forced to seek assistance because they have no funds with which to pay the fee exacted by commercial agencies.

Buffalo - Streets are lined with unemployed men and evidence of privation and suffering is beginning to manifest itself in every section. Approximately 2,500 Negroes are said to be unemployed in the city. They are employed to a very limited extent in public projects that have been initiated for the improvement of employment conditions.

Detroit - The amount of unemployment among all workers remains at its high peak. Placements by the local branch are considerably fewer for the same period than for the first nine months of 1929. Approximately 4,500 Negro families are receiving doles from the city. This number represents 27 per cent of the total families receiving relief.

Los Angeles - Applicants for help at the office of the League from January 1st to September 30th total 1,307, of whom only 205 were placed. Conditions have grown worse during September and October. A steady decline in the

number of requests from employers and a steady increase from applicants out of work is noted.

Brooklyn - Heads of families out of work are receiving pay for emergency employment from the city fund provided for this purpose. A committee of ministers appointed at a meeting called by the Brooklyn Urban League is seeking the cooperation of the Brooklyn Federation of Churches in an effort to stem the tide against the employment of Negroes.

#### WHAT ARE SOME OF THE RESULTANT SITUATIONS?

##### Race Antagonisms Aroused

From all sections of the country come reports of whites replacing Negroes in jobs usually occupied by them. In the South whites are doing domestic and menial jobs without loss of caste, thus, ignoring former conventions. Industrial plants hiring Negroes as unskilled laborers in the North refuse them employment in their southern branches. Negroes are discouraged and are wandering from city to city - North and South in search of employment.

The charge of "underselling" white labor usually laid at the door of Negro labor may now be preferred against white men and women, particularly the latter who are frequently replacing Negroes at a lower wage - a situation by no means basically a racial one. Various subterfuges are being resorted to to make such transfers possible.

In the North Negroes are opposing the employment of white workers in stores that depend largely upon their patronage. They have

resorted to boycott and, in some instances, mob violence. Communists have taken advantage of the unsettled state of mind of Negro workers and promised them relief in return for their membership. The Black Shirts of Atlanta, boasting of membership throughout the South, retaliate by advocating the discharge of Negroes from all jobs desired by whites.

#### WHAT IS THE URBAN LEAGUE DOING?

##### The Vocational Campaign

In April, 1930, the Department of Industrial Relations of the National Urban League, realizing the present unemployment due to other than technological causes, instituted a Vocational Opportunity Campaign. Fifty cities organized committees for this program which was conducted during the week April 20 to 27. Literature was circulated on the subject, radio talks, mass meetings for workers, interviews with employers, as well as addresses before service groups were featured. More than 177 employers and 60,000 workers were reached through this medium.

This week's efforts resulted in increased opportunities for Negro workers and in stabilizing many situations which were then quite uncertain.

##### The Present Situation

In the present emergency (the extent to which it is affecting Negroes can be seen from statistics in this report) the Urban League is intensifying its regular industrial service along the following lines:

1. Gathering data on employment conditions from the country at large to advise Negroes where and under what conditions work is available.
2. Releasing to the Public authenticated facts and figures on the employment problems of Negroes.
3. Securing jobs for colored workers, emphasizing the necessity for better types of work than those commonly open to them in order that the growing number of trained young people may find employment commensurate with their capacity.
4. Interviewing leaders of business and labor union officials, in order to secure better occupational advantages.
5. Cooperating with welfare organizations and public officials to provide for the participation of Negro workers in programs agreed upon for all workers.
6. Advising Negro workers to improve the quality of service rendered by them.
7. Assisting in the movement to promote accepted vocational guidance standards where they can be made available to Negro youth.

Special activities inaugurated by the National Urban League to help during the present unemployment emergency are the following:

1. Obtaining emergency and part-time work and connecting Negro workers up with employment created by governmental agencies to help the unemployed.
2. Serving on committees and commissions to adjust the unemployed.

3. Disseminating information on local employment conditions in order to acquaint Negro workers with the labor market in industrial centers.

4. Providing temporary relief for families of unemployed.

5. Serving as clearing house for administering relief.

#### WHAT RELIEF IS AVAILABLE?

In the national movement for the relief of the present unemployment conditions, officials of the Urban League are serving on many of the various committees appointed for the purpose. League officials are serving on city and state-wide committees in

Buffalo	Newark
New York	Pittsburgh
St. Louis	Akron
Chicago	Springfield, (Ill.)
Detroit	Philadelphia

Various branches of the League reporting on the social results of unemployment in the individual communities show an increased proportion of requests from Negro families for temporary relief. To a large measure these requests are being met. It has been particularly difficult for these organizations to find employment for Negroes as easily or readily as employment has been obtained for whites. Summaries of a few cities' reports are given at this point.

Pittsburgh - The Relief work being done by four relief-giving agencies is

for Negroes and whites indiscriminately. Temporary lodgings for homeless men are available for Negroes and white alike. Negro case workers are employed on the committee that is aiding in the disposal of the \$100,000 appropriation provided by the city for the relief of families suffering directly from unemployment.

Washington, D. C. - The Associated Charities reports that "for the year ending December 31, 1929, in 1329 Negro families, unemployment care was the problem in 40 per cent, and that under-employment was a problem in 30 per cent. During the same period, for 1022 white families, unemployment was a problem in 43 per cent while under-employment was a problem in 19 per cent. Contrasting figures are not possible for the year 1930. The Citizens Committee of Washington has pledged itself to see that jobs are not given white workers at the expense of colored workers now employed.

New York - A conference of representatives of social agencies, churches, and business and professional organizations called by our branch has set about to establish a relief program for Harlem. The branch also is establishing a relief work program to provide work for unemployed men by engaging them to clean up alleyways, etc. with no charge to landlords or agents.

Cincinnati - The family case load and intake of Shoemaker Center of Cincinnati, a social agency dealing entirely with Negro families, indicated

a 77.3 per cent increase in the total case load during the first nine months of 1930 over that of the same period in 1929. The intake for the same period shows an increase of 67.1 per cent.

Omaha - There are no indications of severe unemployment in Omaha. No bread lines are anticipated. However, "the report of the Associated Charities and the Salvation Army have shown a steady increase in both Negroes and whites seeking charity."

Cleveland - City and county officials, in their efforts to give funds to the needy unemployed are including white and colored families. The Negro population is sharing in the relief work of the city as well as that provided by social philanthropy. The city plans to provide three days a week every other week for public employment. The Industrial Secretary of the Cleveland branch is assisting in city registration for city jobs. A number of Negroes have registered at city hall, and have secured three days' work a week at \$4.80 a day.

Tampa - There are indications of severity. The Family Service Association report shows a sharp upward trend in volume of relief given among Negro families between the months of April and October.

Canton - The Family Service Society reports that it has experienced many encounters in attempting to get its colored clients placed, but on the whole, got more attention when appeals were made for white clients.

Akron - The percentage of relief cases for January through June, 1930 shows an increase of 40 per cent over the case load for 1929. It is of interest to note that the 690 Negro families receiving relief in Akron constitute a little more than one-third of the whole Negro population.

Chicago - Reports indicate very serious unemployment among Negro workers. The League branch is working actively with the Council of Social Agencies and the United Jewish and Catholic Charities. Plans are being made for the housing of unemployed and homeless men. An unemployment benefit has been conducted by the organization for the purpose of securing funds for the relief program. Churches are actively interested.

Louisville - Reports show that the relief requests because of unemployment made to the Family Service Association have doubled during the year 1930. Some of the seasonal industries, especially tobacco, have Negroes for their working personnel, while the building industry has given employment to about 200 Negroes.

Kansas City - Employment has been secured for a small number of Negroes on city projects, while a few have been finding employment in the construction of buildings and in private businesses. Relief is being administered to Negro families by some twelve or more agencies of the Community Fund.

Buffalo, N. Y. - Negroes are sharing equally in all efforts to relieve unemployment. The relief load of the Bureau of Public Welfare has 500 Negro families in its total of 5,500. Between 200 and 300 men report daily to the

city employment office. They share, however, in all of the public and private relief funds dispensed to the dependents of the city. This is to be expected as the per cent of unemployed Negroes is quite in excess of the proportion of Negroes in the total population.

#### WHAT ARE THE CONCLUSIONS?

Our information leads us to believe that the problem of unemployment among Negroes is serious enough to demand special attention. To offset the inequalities usually found in work relationships involving Negroes and certain to appear during a crisis such as this, special attention will have to be given this group through official agencies functioning in the emergency. What the League forces are doing and causing to be done locally is not sufficient. Normally, one out of every eight wage-earners is a Negro and as such this race should receive, both for its own welfare and for the restoration of business, its normal share of employment.

In almost every city Negroes constitute a larger part of the beneficiaries of charitable agencies than they do of the population. This is because they are receiving a smaller share of the work. Their purchasing power is being lowered and communities dependent upon Negro trade feel the loss of their patronage. Thus new causes for racial irritation are coming to the front to disturb relations that are already too unsettled.

Nothing is more evident than that the color line must be taken out of industry. Since the inception of the National Urban League this has

been its industrial objective. We see it today as a more important need than ever before. Violent competition between white and black workers comes to the front in times like these to prove the weakness of an industrial system that pushes one group forward at the expense of another. The removal of this artificial barrier is the challenge to American industry.

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# HOW UNEMPLOYMENT AFFECTS NEGROES

A statement covering principal cities in the nation and  
based upon information supplied by persons in  
daily contact with employment problems.

*Earl W. Phillips*

*April 6, 1931*



National Urban League  
Department of Industrial Relations  
1133 Broadway  
New York City

March 1931

*Twenty-five Cents a Copy*

H O W   U N E M P L O Y M E N T   A F F E C T S   N E G R O E S

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## F O R E W O R D

This is the third summation of the current unemployment situation among Negroes the National Urban League has prepared. One year ago ( March 1930 ) we estimated the number of unemployed Negroes to be not less than 330,000. In November, in a report covering data from twenty-five industrial cities, we cited instances to sustain our conclusion that the number of unemployed had grown, and that they were suffering to a greater degree than other workers.

We come forth again with the subject of unemployment, not to keep a distasteful question before a despondent public nor to make a case for Negro workers, as much as they need courageous friends at court. We give this picture that employer, social worker, philanthropist, interracial committee member, and all who are concerned with health, home ownership, and good government, may see how far short of standards the Negro must fall when in cities like New York, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Atlanta, and Memphis, from 20 to 30 per cent. of the working Negro population is unemployed and has been for a year or more. Immediate unemployment will some day pass, but this record of economic

waste suggests facts and factors hitherto omitted from nation-wide planning of employment problems.

Early in the year the Department of Industrial Relations of the National Urban League communicated with Governors, directors of Community Chests, Chambers of Commerce, Urban League secretaries, relief agencies, employment experts, officials of insurance companies, and other persons, whose contact with labor and financial conditions gives them an opportunity to answer the question propounded: "What is the effect of unemployment among Negroes in various parts of the country?"

We are aware of changes for better or worse which may have occurred between the receipt of information and the issuance of this statement, but whatever deviations there may be are slight.

This report seeks to present in condensed form the information contained in more than a hundred statements from every section of the country.

#### Acknowledgment

The Department is obligated to Mr. H. A. Lett of the Pittsburgh Urban League for his untiring efforts in compiling and analyzing the many items which were collected in preparation of this statement; also to those persons too numerous to list, who aided by supplying information.

## THE SITUATION IN BRIEF

A glance at the accompanying table (Pages 11-14) will tell part of the tragic story in most of the principal cities of the nation. In every instance where figures are available, the percentage of Negroes among the unemployed is higher than their population percentage warrants, sometimes running as high as four times the proportionate amount, and in some instances, five and six times as high. It is of particular significance that the highest disproportionate figures are found in Northern industrial centers where the Negro is limited to unskilled occupations, and is in truth the marginal worker. This is not to be taken, however, to mean that the disproportion does not appear also in Southern communities where the per cent. of cases handled by relief agencies is also in excess of the per cent. Negroes form of the total population.

### Slight Improvement Reported

In only a few cases are conditions improving for Negro workers. In most instances conditions have either grown worse or continued unsatisfactory during the past four months.

### Whites Replace Negroes

There is abundant proof in reports from all sections of the country that many jobs Negroes once filled are being held by whites

-- a situation which has allowed whites to profit at the expense of Negroes. There seems to be no let-up in displacements of this character, either in the South or the North. In fact, what seemed to be a tendency two years ago appears now to be an accepted policy - to reduce unemployment among whites. Not only have whites been advantaged in this way, but Filipinos and Mexicans have also been placed in jobs from which entire crews of Negroes have been dismissed.

This substitution of workers of other races in jobs customarily held by Negroes has been chiefly in personal service occupations; the principal occupations being household employment, elevator operating and hotel service. In a number of establishments, as in the case of hotels, white girls are employed in places formerly held by colored men.

#### workers Shift from City to City

Noticeable shifts in population have menaced situations otherwise perplexing. warnings have been sent out that no workers should come to certain cities. Brooklyn notices an influx from Detroit, and Detroit, favorably advertised because of a reported revival in the automobile industry, has had to house workers from other parts of the country. In New York City population movements from surrounding suburbs have aggravated the problem in Harlem; and throughout the country there is more than expected population mobility, even for unemployment periods.

The aught is credited with sending scores of Negroes into

Little Rock and Houston from the neighboring rural sections. Duluth reports a decrease in its Negro population due to the shutting-down of the steel plants in which Negroes had found employment, and to the rigorous climate. Less than 300 people of color remain in this city far up on the Lakes.

#### wage Competition

Needless to say that wages have been cut -- races competing with each other in order to gain favor with employers. There are cases of whites under-bidding Negroes, as well as Negroes under-bidding whites. There are instances of one Negro doing the work of two whites at the wage of one.

#### Negroes Not Employed In Public Works

Correspondence with Governors was entered into in order to find out whether or not Negroes would be used in state public works. The replies were noncommittal in most instances. Said one Governor of a Southern state;

"...There is quite a large amount of Negro labor used on all our contracts. We make no distinction between white and colored groups in employment..."

Said another from this same section;

"...Your letter is the first suggestion I have heard that there might be some discrimination against Negroes, and I assure you that there is no basis in fact for such an assumption..."

A third, from New England, writes:

"...I am sure that there is no discrimination in this state against the employment of Negroes..."

Some referred letters to their Departments of Public Works; a few expressed tacit agreement with the suggestion that Negroes might hope for employment on public jobs.

Our replies from these sources, and from others who are in a position to influence the employment of workers on public construction, indicate that to a very limited degree Negroes are being used in public works created for the purpose of making jobs for unemployed people.

#### Improvement

The bright side of the picture is presented by improvements in several sections of the country -- the packing plants in Omaha; roads and river construction near Memphis; the flour mills and lumbering industries of Seattle; a bumper cane crop and citrus yield in Florida; fertilizing plants in Augusta; the existence of public work projects in Pittsburgh; general favorable conditions in Denver; a lowering of unemployment in Dayton -- these are the principal sources of better times for Negro workers.

#### Loans on Insurance Policies

Another view of the situation is afforded in the experiences of insurance companies handling Negro business. One reports:

"...Applications for policy loans have shown an increase of at least 33 1/3 per cent. during

the past year.... Our records also show an increase of 50 per cent. in applications for Surrender Value on contracts carried. Each of these items demonstrates in our minds the rigid financial depression, experienced notably by reason of the unemployment of the (Negro) group..."

A very complete statement from another insurance company says:

"...The amount of our policy loans has increased from \$18,590.84 at December 31, 1929, to \$48,580.20 at December 31, 1930. The amount of our loans is not so noticeable now because the average loan is a little over \$50.00. The number of such loans, however, has increased about 300 per cent. during the past year....and the number is growing from week to week.... we had an increase in death claims during the past year....and it appears to me that a great deal of the additional mortality may have been induced by lack of food, or worry, or improper medical attendance."

A third company reports in terms of dollars:

"...Our new business for 1930 was \$3,735,480.00 and our lapses \$3,572,245.00. You may draw your own conclusions from these figures."

A table submitted by still another company tells its own story:

Amounts Issued on Policy Loans by Years

Year	Amount	Per cent. Increase	Amount Issued Month of January
1927	\$ 173,074.08	.....	\$15,150.90
1928	205,124.23	18.46	17,048.08
1929	267,001.70	30.11	24,917.61
1930	372,755.22	39.06	31,320.12
1931	.....	.....	36,482.06

### Churches Active

Another highly significant development that has come in the wake of unemployment is the attention now given by Negro churches in providing relief for the unemployed. Frequent references in advices from all over the nation indicate that free kitchens, money relief and clothing, are being provided by religious institutions to supplement the work of social agencies. For the first time the Negro church has entered the field of practical social service on such a large scale.

### CONCLUSIONS

But when we dismiss these details and look at the picture as a whole, we are forced to the following conclusions:

That the situation has not materially improved since the issuance of our last report in November;

That measures for relief are confined almost entirely to charity;

That Negroes get more relief but fewer jobs than others from agencies established to aid the unemployed;

That Negroes continue, and unless provision is made to the contrary, will continue to contribute more than their proportionate share of the burden of relief agencies;

That the economic structure of the entire Negro race is in an alarming state of disrepair, with dire effect upon

business and professional interests dependent upon the patronage of Negro wage-earners;

That restlessness is evident from one end of the country to the other; for unquestionably Negroes have lost jobs to which they will not return even when normal times come again; and

That the new jobs offered Negroes in public works have not been in proportion to their need.

#### Economic Implications

The condition of astounding unemployment disclosed in the various city reports listed herein -- seven per cent. of the population constituting 25 per cent. of the unemployed, 9 per cent. of the population constituting 66 per cent. of the unemployed; or 4 per cent. of the population constituting 25 per cent. of the relief cases, or 18 per cent. of the population constituting 92 per cent. of the relief cases -- is an economic problem that far transcends racial significance. It is usually assumed that economic systems make no deference to race. Academically this assumption holds, but practical cognizance should be taken of a situation which is degrading and pauperizing so large a part of the nation's population.

We submit, then, these facts and figures to those who seek a way to forestall or minimize future crises in unemployment. The factor of race presents an economic question which must find place in programs of regularization and relief. No program to prevent or limit

unemployment yet announced has recognized the problem presented by hordes of unemployed Negroes whose low standards of living should be the concern of business as well as of social workers.

This report is offered with the hope that it may emphasize the need for clear thinking on an extremely wasteful and harmful system.

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UNEMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS AMONG NEGROES

As Reflected in Local Unemployment Surveys and Estimates and Reports from Relief Agencies \*

City and State	Per cent. Negroes in Popula- tion	Per cent. Negroes of Total Unem- ployed	Per cent. Negro of Total Relief Cases Reported	Notes
Akron, Ohio	** 4.5	---	25.	
Atlanta, Georgia	30.	32.	---	
Augusta, Georgia	46.	50.	---	
✓ Baltimore, Maryland	17.	31.5	34.	
Boston, Massachusetts	2.5	---	---	Increases in 1930 over 1929: Applications 53%. Decrease: Orders 133%; Placements 151%
✓ Buffalo, New York	3.	25.8 %	---	Negroes constitute 29.2% of total part-time workers
Charleston, S. C.	49.	70.	---	
✓ Chicago, Illinois	4.	16.	25.	

Cincinnati, Ohio	8.	---	---	33% of men employed in Cincinnati plan are Negroes. Relief cases increased from 85 to 800, January 1930 to January 1931
Columbus, Ohio	10.	---	43.	
Dayton, Ohio	**10.		50.	Slight signs of improvement
Des Moines, Iowa	4.	25.		
Englewood, N. J.	**18.	39.	92.	
Ft. Wayne, Ind.	1.6	---	22-33.	
Ft. Worth, Texas	14.	---	---	1200 Negroes unemployed
Greensboro, N. C.	27.	---	---	Increase of 100% in 4 months of Negro case-load
Harrisburg, Penn.	7.	---	50.	Worse than in Fall
Houston, Texas	25.	50.	---	
Indianapolis, Ind.	9.	---	28.	Amount of relief being given has increased tremendously
Little Rock, Ark.	20.	54.	65.	
Los Angeles, Calif.	2.5	---	---	Getting worse. Placed 96 men in January as against 133 in November.

Lynchburg, Virginia	27.	35.	---	
Macon, Georgia	46.	55.	---	
Memphis, Tennessee	38.	75.	---	
New Brunswick, N.J.	3.5	19.	---	
New York City	3.5	---	10.5	Per cent. increase in case work in January 1931 over preceding year: Total, 74%; Negro 300%
Norfolk, Virginia	23.	30.	---	
Oklahoma City, Okla.	9.	---	---	67% increase in Negro relief from January 1930 to January 1931
Omaha, Nebraska	5.	---	25.	Drastic cut in domestic wages
Petersburg, Va.	45.	---	---	1640 Negroes out of work
Philadelphia, Pa.	7.	25.	35-40	20% of free school meals to Negro children. Slight improvement not affecting Negroes materially
✓ Pittsburgh, Pa.	8.	38.	44.?	Negroes given jobs in proportion to their greater need
Richmond, Ind.	6.	---	33.	

Richmond, Va.	33.	---	---	100% increase in Negro case-load October to January 1931
St. Louis, Mo.	9.	66.	60.	Of 330 jobs given, 10 went to Negroes
Shreveport, La.	40.	---	---	Report 1500 Negroes unemployed
Washington, D. C.	25.	29.	---	

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- \* This table is given simply for the purpose of convenience. Data is not comparable because so many factors enter into it.
- \*\* Indicates population estimates by local informant. Other population percentages based on United States Census of 1920.

THE MIDDLE ATLANTIC STATES

New York

Brooklyn -- Brooklyn reports fewer jobs in evidence now than at any time during the past four months. Added to unemployed Brooklynites is a large number of recent arrivals from a mid-western city.

New York City -- Here a grave situation exists with approximately 25,000 unemployed Negroes in Harlem. An increase of 300 per cent. of appeals for relief by colored families is reported by social agencies. In February Negroes were laid off in a number of plants -- in some instances to be supplanted immediately by white workers. Negro churches and organizations are laboring diligently to provide work, food, and clothing; but relief agencies are swamped with an unprecedented number of appeals of which 75 per cent. come from persons previously unknown to them. The 2,500 Negro families being aided by charitable organizations represent 10.5 per cent. of the total number of families receiving assistance. (The total number of applications to these agencies in November 1930 represented an increase of 74 per cent. over 1929 appeals for the same month; while the number of Negro families making application increased nearly 300 per cent. in the same period.)

Janitor jobs, totaling 600 in number, formerly held by Negroes, have been vacated. One concern laid off 12 colored porters to be replaced by white men. The Harlem problem is aggravated by the increased number of suburban workers who are moving into the city to obtain relief.

Rochester -- Rochester's problem expresses itself in the loss of jobs formerly held by Negroes and now occupied by whites. Finding work opportunities is regarded so important that a group of white and colored citizens recently approved of an industrial survey in order to disclose exact sentiment respecting employment of Negroes and available quality and quantity of Negro workers. Part-time jobs created by the city to relieve unemployment have engaged fewer than 50 Negroes. Nevertheless, only 15 families of this race were being aided by the charities at the time of our report.

Syracuse -- In Syracuse the situation is said to be acute. A newspaper campaign in behalf of the unemployed Negro workers has been instituted. Approximately 52 per cent. of the 2,200 Negro workers in Syracuse are out of employment, the male element being the more seriously affected.

Buffalo -- It has been found that "in 1929 as in 1930, the greatest proportion of unemployed males was found among the native colored and the least among the native whites; the largest proportion of

males employed part time was found among the native colored and the smallest among the native white; the smallest proportion of males employed full time was found among the native colored and the largest among the native white." The situation reached a high peak in February of 1931 and continues to remain acute. Domestic work for members of the race has almost entirely disappeared. In this **field** openings are few, and in those jobs formerly paying from \$12 to \$15 a week cuts have been made to \$7 and \$10.

Negro workers have been excluded in the "Man-A-Block" plan which provides a minimum of \$15.00 a week -- the amount being raised in the block by contributions from people in the residential sections for the removal of snow and other wastes. There has been no discrimination evidenced in the industries.

#### New Jersey

Englewood -- The critical condition of the Negro population of Englewood is reflected in reports which show that colored applicants for work constitute 38 per cent. of the number applying, although they represent but 18 per cent. of the population. From October 1, 1930 to January 1, 1931, the city aided 117 families of which 96 were Negro. During this same period nearly half of the amount expended by welfare agencies was directed to the aid of Negroes. Placements in emergency relief work have been divided equally, not proportion-

ately, among Negroes and whites. During January 1931, the increased need of Negro workers is shown in the division of \$1,100 contributed by the City Poormaster. Of 137 families aided during this month, 127 were Negro and 10 were white.

Trenton -- It is thought that there has been no appreciable improvement of conditions since October. At that time 46 families, in which no member was working, were discovered. By way of comparison, 81 Negro families are at present (February) receiving aid from a city relief fund.

Newark -- No gains in employment have been experienced by Negroes in Newark since November. On the contrary a steady decline in employment opportunities, the inadequacy of emergency labor plans, and a steady movement of labor into the city have created a situation for which no immediate relief is anticipated.

New Brunswick -- Of the 1,390 persons registered by the Mayor's Unemployment Committee, 266 were Negroes, representing 19 per cent. of the total. The Negro population is estimated at 3.5 per cent. of the city's total. A survey of work opportunities for Negroes is being considered by the Council of Social Agencies, who recognize that Negroes are more seriously affected by unemployment than any other group.

Montclair -- Of a total of 497 men registered by the Bureau of Occupation, 271 were Negro and 226 white; of 336 women registered, 254 were Negro and 82 white. "The agencies dealing with families report much mental suffering and worry but so far no actual starvation. Conditions are worse this month (March) than last, although they are not by any means out of hand."

Pennsylvania

Harrisburg -- More than half of the unemployment cases listed with social agencies are Negroes, indicating that conditions as reflected during January and February are no better than in the Fall, but on the contrary appear to be much worse.

Pittsburgh -- A steady decline in employment opportunities was noted with the beginning of the new year, together with a corresponding increase of demand upon relief-giving agencies. The steel industry has not shown any new life and coal mines are reducing forces to an alarming degree. An emergency relief plan is now beginning to function on a comparatively large scale, and jobs, mainly in public works, are being created. Of the first 700 men placed on jobs by this committee, 300 were Negroes. Colored families constitute fully 44 per cent. of those being served by charitable agencies and are being allotted employment in proportionate numbers. The case-loads

of relief agencies have risen to unprecedented figures, a large per cent. of which represents families of both races who have heretofore been unknown to these organizations. Employment office reports, statistics from a Negro insurance company, and case-loads of welfare agencies indicate an increasingly critical condition which the emergency work plan can relieve but slightly.

Philadelphia -- Contrary to reports from other sections, Philadelphia is experiencing a slowly increasing demand for labor, one however which in no wise meets the work demand. A revival of several industries, and the return to work of many laid-off employees is accompanied by a report of greater placement activities in January than in December. Employment conditions among Negroes have not increased proportionately with those of the white group, and the effects of the depression are more severe. Between 35 and 40 per cent. of the families receiving aid from charitable agencies and the municipal bureau are Negroes, here again in greater proportion than their population percentage warrants. Colored churches are rallying to the assistance of destitute families and individuals. School feeding-stations are being operated by the Board of Education, and 20 per cent. of the children attending are colored.

Scranton -- About one-tenth of Scranton's Negro population of between 700 and 1,000, are out of employment. This is a far better

situation than experienced throughout 1930. At this time there is no evidence of much suffering as a result of unemployment.

#### THE EAST NORTH CENTRAL STATES

##### Ohio

Akron -- Approximately 25 per cent. of those applying for relief are Negroes although constituting but 4.5 per cent. of the city's population. One institution, which for three months has been serving free meals to the unemployed, reports that between 35 and 40 per cent. of the 14,050 meals served were given to Negroes.

Cincinnati -- The Cincinnati plan is providing three days' work each week to approximately 2,085 men, one-third of whom are Negroes, who are said to represent 25 per cent. of the total unemployed in the city. In December 1929 the Associated Charities were aiding 85 colored cases as compared with 800 listed in January 1931. Of the men served by the city free lunch rooms, 60 per cent. were Negroes.

Columbus -- Of 7,000 unemployed persons registered, 2,600 or approximately 37 per cent. were Negroes. This is approximately 10 per cent. of the total Negro population. The case-load of this 10 per cent. Negro population represents 43 per cent. of the total case-load of charitable organizations.

Dayton -- Employment is on the increase and relief is showing corresponding decrease. Of persons aided by welfare organizations in December, 50 per cent. were Negroes, but only 38 per cent. of those aided in February were Negroes. More recent reports indicate that conditions are still improving.

Cleveland -- The Negro population of Cleveland has suffered greatly for the better part of a year. Figures for 1930 as compared with those for 1929 are most discouraging. Among cities listed in our last report Cleveland showed the largest per cental decrease in available jobs. This figure was 62.1 per cent. More recent reports indicate a slight improvement.

Youngstown --- That branch of work in the large mills which engages the greatest number of Negro laborers in normal times, is practically dead, resulting in critical conditions among the Negro workers. The few employed at present are given but a few days' wages each pay period which keeps them supplied only with the bare necessities.

#### Michigan

Misleading news stories have been responsible for an influx of white and Negro labor into Detroit, seeking work in the automobile plants. This has placed an additional burden on already

overtaxed welfare agencies without evidence of any material relief being supplied by industry. All the other cities in Michigan have relatively few Negroes. Scattered advices tell of few changes for the better. Pontiac and Flint, automobile centers to which large numbers of Negroes have gone in recent years, still feel the breakdown in the automobile industry. The same is true of Lansing, although only a few Negroes work in the automobile plants in that city.

#### Illinois

Chicago -- At the time of a dispatch from Chicago, approximately 135,000 idle persons were registered by the Governor's Commission on Unemployment and Relief in the city. Of the first 90,000 registered, more than 15,000 were Negroes, it being estimated that at present one-tenth of the city's Negro population is unemployed. At one time the case-load of charitable organizations was ten times that of the preceding year. Fully 25 per cent. of relief given during 1930 and in January 1931, went to Negroes of the city. One-tenth of the men in "made jobs" are Negroes. In each of six different sections of the South Side, one or more churches are maintaining free feeding-stations. Funds are being raised among Negro merchants and their employees for relief work.

An idea of the effect unemployment among Negroes has upon business generally may be gleaned from reports indicating that in-

insurance policy loans in 1930 show an increase of 82 per cent. over the preceding year. New business increases and premium collections have experienced fluctuations as startling and the amount in lapsed policies has increased 28 per cent. during the past year.

Springfield -- From the state capital comes the encouraging word that a large number of colored workers are being employed in construction work. Negroes have lost several important positions lately, and a number of personal service places are now being filled by other workers.

#### Indiana

Indianapolis -- As early as December many local industries limited production to three and four days a week. Commercial institutions curtailed expenses by decreasing the number of employees. Industries employing a large number of Negroes are using about one-third of their normal forces, and then on part-time basis. In 1929, 22 per cent. of the applicants to one relief agency were Negroes. This ratio has increased to 26 per cent. The township trustees are giving relief, and two colored organizations have opened soup kitchens in the Negro sections. Many instances of "doubling up" to save rent are noted.

Richmond -- Approximately one-third of the relief cases recorded

by social agencies and township officials are Negro cases. All classes are being served indiscriminately according to their needs.

Fort Wayne --- Unemployment is not experiencing adequate relief in spite of the efforts of a local unemployment commission. Negroes have suffered greatly over a long period in Fort Wayne.

#### Wisconsin

Beloit --- Approximately 150 of Beloit's Negro population are reported out of work although ample funds in the community chest have prevented any unusual suffering. Present trends indicate a more favorable condition now than during the last quarter of 1930.

Madison -- State work is reported to be available to any citizen regardless of race or color.

Milwaukee -- Optimistic reports of early recovery of business have not been sustained in reality. Although fewer men are being laid off, it is equally true that fewer are being placed in employment. Savings have been consumed, insurance policies lapsed, or loans made on them to their limit.

Racine -- Relief agencies are caring for 45 Negro families and 25 single men in the city's population of approximately 700 Negroes. Conditions seem no worse than the latter part of 1930, but neither are they better. No unusual cases of want or suffering are noted.

## THE WEST NORTH CENTRAL STATES

### Iowa

Des Moines -- Of 2,500 Negro family heads, about 15 per cent, are totally unemployed and another 40 per cent. are on part-time work. Projected building programs may provide openings for Negro hod-carriers, mortar-mixers and other construction workers.

### Minnesota

Duluth -- The Negro population of Duluth -- about 300 -- is said to be diminishing, most of them having left the city when the steel plant slackened its operations. Relief cases are cared for by the Family Welfare Society when necessary.

St. Paul -- Negro males registered in a city-wide registration numbered 94, females 57. Nineteen of these men were railroad waiters affected by lay-off, and eighteen were skilled workers in some line. Thirty-seven per cent. of the men and 26 per cent. of the women had been in St. Paul less than a year.

### Missouri

St. Louis -- Conditions in St. Louis seemed considerably worse in

February than at any time during the depression. Of 17,000 applications filed with the Citizens' Application Bureau, two-thirds were Negroes, as were 9,000 of the 21,000 persons listed by the Citizens' Employment Bureau. Between 60 and 65 per cent. of active cases handled by the Bureau for Homeless Men are of the colored race. In addition, Negroes constitute 60 per cent. of the detached individuals receiving bread and clothing from the Salvation Army, and 50 per cent. of their family cases; one-fourth of the family cases of the St. Vincent de Paul Society; and an inordinate proportion of the Provident Association cases. Yet, of the 330 permanent jobs secured by the emergency committee, only 10 went to colored workers. Men are continually being let out in lots of from 50 to 200, and several instances of the practice of replacing Negro workers with white have been noted. Employment records show a decided loss in orders for help and placements during February, with a sharp increase in the number of applications.

Several large Negro churches are serving free meals, some of them averaging more than 100 meals a day. One church has served meals to over 2,000 Negroes and approximately 1,000 white persons. A women's club has provided a dormitory for homeless women, averaging 17 lodgers per night.

Kansas City -- The Provident Association reports an expenditure of \$3,765 among Negroes during December 1930 as against the sum of \$1,354 the previous December. One hotel replaced its force of 20 Negro maids, elevator boys and cooks with Filipinos, and thereby cut its wage bill practically in half. Public agencies are giving relief without regard to color.

#### Nebraska

Lincoln -- Although no authentic figures on unemployment among Negroes are available, it is reported that there is no greater suffering among Negroes than whites in this community. Approximately 1,200 Negroes live in the city which is a railroad division point, and many of them are employed in the Pullman service. The Social Welfare Society cares for all cases of relief, regardless of color.

Omaha -- Reports of the several social service agencies indicate that there has been very little improvement in unemployment conditions. One agency reports that of 1,000 active relief cases, 248 are Negro, a ratio of 25 per cent., while the population ratio is 5 per cent. These figures are substantiated by other local agencies.

One organization reports that during the month of January, more women were placed than during the two preceding months combined. This difference was noted however; that domestic ser-

vice jobs formerly paying \$10 to \$12 per week are now offered at \$7 and \$8, and the requests are largely for younger women. Resumption of activities at four packing houses has resulted in the recall of 200 Negro employees. In some instances Negroes have replaced whites on skilled jobs, but in at least two of them, the colored worker has been required to do the tasks formerly performed by two persons and at the salary paid only one of the former workers.

#### South Dakota

Pierre -- Inasmuch as South Dakota's unemployment is the lowest per capita in all the states of the Union, and the fact that the colored population in this state is very small, it is not believed that the unemployment situation among Negroes is very serious, according to an official statement.

#### THE NEW ENGLAND STATES

Though latest reports indicate a slight improvement in employment conditions in New England, there is no evidence that Negroes have begun to profit from it. Boston, Hartford, and New Haven, in which live approximately 32 per cent. of all Negroes in New England, have made no perceptible improvement for their Negro workers in recent months. The silk, textile fabrication, and metal industries which while below normal, are improved over what

they have been, are those in which few Negroes are ordinarily employed; hence improvement here has not registered among Negroes.

New Hampshire's Negro population of 790 is so small that the group problem is minimized to the point of extinction.

From Rhode Island, in which live only 10,000 Negroes, there is no report.

Boston -- Applications for work in the one Negro employment bureau during 1930 showed an increase of 53 per cent. over the preceding year, while calls for help declined 133 per cent. in the same period. Placements for 1930 were 151 per cent. below the 1929 figure. January, February, and March of 1931 give no promise of improvement. The month of January disclosed numerous instances of lay-offs. One employer furloughed 51 Negro workers. Other workers who had held their jobs from three to fifteen years were dropped. Replacements of Negro workers by white is also reported in several instances.

Worcester -- Few Negroes are in the ranks of skilled or unskilled workers in Worcester's industrial plants, but unemployment has affected those who are in casual and personal service occupations. Agencies interested in Negroes are emphasizing preparation on the part of younger members of this race in order to present their claims to employers.

Hartford -- Definite figures indicating unemployment among Negroes have not been reported to us. Considerable unemployment is said still to exist, and Negroes and whites are sharing proportionately in the benefits provided from city cleaning and repairing work. Extra appropriations to charitable agencies have been expended among Negroes as well as whites.

#### THE SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES

##### Maryland

Baltimore -- The unemployment situation in Baltimore in January 1931 seems to be but little worse than experienced throughout 1928, 1929, and 1930. Negroes, approximately 17 per cent. of the population, represented 31.5 per cent. of the city's unemployed in 1930, as compared with 30.3 per cent. in 1929 and 32.6 in 1928. Relief agencies show a decided parallel of indigency with unemployment, 30 per cent. of the cases in 1929, and 34 per cent. in 1930, being Negro families.

##### District of Columbia

Washington -- In the Nation's capital relatively more Negro than white workers are out of employment. Governmental department workers, Negro and white, have not been found among the unemployed to any great extent. The largest group of unemployed Negro men

are those usually engaged in the building industry. Four-fifths of the 31,000 gainfully employed Negro women are usually engaged in domestic or personal service in normal times. It was found in April 1930 that close to 1,200 or nine-tenths of all unemployed women at that time, were representatives of this service group. It is significant that in Washington's 111,988 Negro population, 80.5 per cent. of the males, and 52.8 per cent. of the females were gainfully employed in ordinary times.

#### Virginia

Danville -- The unusually grave situation resulting from unemployment has been aggravated in Danville by the textile strike. Strike conditions have been felt among all classes to the extent that ordinary jobs of cleaning, washing, and general housework have been done within the families which formerly engaged Negro workers. The tobacco crop, which usually furnished work to hundreds of Negroes between September and March was somewhat lighter this year. This was attended by a lowering of the wage rate usually received. The suburban sections of the city suffer for want of relief with little assistance being given by community budgets which may not extend their work beyond city limits.

Lynchburg -- From a population of over 30,000 a total number of 705 unemployed persons were registered. Approximately 35 per cent.

of this number are Negroes, who constitute 27 per cent. of the total population.

Norfolk -- Norfolk places its unemployment figure at 5,000, representing roughly one-fifth of its employable population. Of this number, Negroes constitute 30 per cent. In the temporary work plan instituted in November a just proportion of Negroes were employed, but lack of funds forced a discontinuance of the plan. There is evidence of great need for assistance among both races.

Roanoke -- The case-load of relief agencies for the last four months of 1930 show an increase of 114 per cent. over that of the same period in 1929. No definite estimate of Negro representation in these figures is obtainable.

Richmond -- A 20 per cent. decline in available positions since November, and an increase of 29 per cent. in applications for work, sum up the employment conditions in Richmond. The closing of a large railroad shop has transferred many skilled workers to other cities and released all unskilled workers who are Negroes. The tobacco industry, which employs a large number of colored workers, is in its slack season. The case-load of the relief agency for colored families has increased nearly 100 per cent. since October. Insurance companies report a decline in premium collections and an increase in payment of sick benefits. One church in the city

is feeding over 100 Negroes daily. A steady stream of rural dwellers from surrounding territory aggravates the problem.

Petersburg -- During the first week in February, a total of 1,640 Negroes were unemployed, estimated as affecting 8,200 of Petersburg's Negro population of nearly 14,000.

#### North Carolina

Charlotte -- Since November, Charlotte has experienced no significant changes other than a gradual but perceptible decline in employment. The first week in February brought the lowest point in employment yet experienced.

Durham -- Durham's unemployment continues unabated, with few, if any immediate signs of improvement evident. Business feels the effects, particularly the insurance field.

Greensboro -- An increase of 100 per cent. in December 1930 over 155 Negro cases carried by relief agencies during the same month of 1929, is an indication of the effect of unemployment in Greensboro. This figure represents a more rapid and abnormal increase than is true of white family cases.

#### South Carolina

Charleston -- Between 2,000 and 3,000 persons are unemployed in

Charleston, 60 to 75 per cent. of whom are Negroes described as being of the type who work on a temporary basis. Charleston has been more favored than other cities in that it has not yet been faced with the necessity of an emergency effort.

#### Georgia

Atlanta -- Conservative estimates fix Atlanta's unemployment figure at 25,000, fully 8,000 of whom are Negroes. Such jobs as are being opened are being given to white men. Efforts are being made to raise \$100,000 for a relief fund which is interpreted locally as an indication of continued industrial inactivity. December and January saw an increasing number of appeals to relief agencies. Atlanta's Negro population is better than 30 per cent. of the total, but represents 32 per cent. of the unemployed.

Augusta -- While funds held out, civic clubs maintained an unemployment registration bureau. At the time of suspension of activities, this bureau had registered 1,839 applicants and placed 226 on jobs, both figures representing a nearly equal division of Negro and white workers. On January 10, about 200 Negroes were employed by the resumption of business in the fertilizer plants.

Macon -- Although the 1930 census places the total number of Macon's unemployed at 1,564, the emergency employment bureau registered about 500, 55 per cent. of whom are Negroes.

### Florida

Tampa -- Conditions, though still below normal, are much brighter than in November. The sugar cane industry on the east coast is employing about 2,000 Negroes in cane harvest, over 100 of whom were supplied from Tampa's list of unemployed. The recently released cigar workers are being absorbed by the canning industry which is in the midst of the citrus season.

### THE EAST SOUTH CENTRAL STATES

#### Tennessee

Chattanooga -- Employment is considered to be somewhat below the November level. The Chamber of Commerce relief department has registered 1,600 unemployed Negroes, and has placed an appreciable number.

Knoxville -- Employment service in the city has registered a total of 1,344 Negroes, 33 per cent. of whom have been placed on jobs. Many colored workers have part-time jobs and are reported to be experiencing less unemployment than the white workers of the community.

Memphis -- Seventy-five per cent. of Memphis' 13,500 unemployed people were Negroes as reported for the latter part of January. However, case-loads are reducing and there is evidence of slowly in-

creasing employment in river and road work.

Nashville -- The employment trend at the close of December was perceptibly downward and considerably below the 1929 figure, as reflected in payroll reports from 87 establishments of the city. Banking debits, clearings, and deposits, show decided declines; as do reports on construction work and retail trade. Relief and employment agencies are unanimous in declaring the situation very serious.

#### THE WEST SOUTH CENTRAL STATES

##### Arkansas

Little Rock -- Little Rock has attracted a considerable number of rural workers deprived of employment and sustenance by the drought. The short cotton crop has closed the cotton oil mills which ordinarily employ many Negroes. One-fifth of Little Rock's population is colored, and 54 per cent. of the unemployed who have registered are of this group. Six hundred registrants have been given three days' work a week by the city and these are evenly divided as to race. Negroes represent over 65 per cent. of the families served by social service bureaus.

### Louisiana

Shreveport -- There is no acute suffering among the unemployed Negroes of Shreveport, who number less than 1,500. This is reported as not being alarming or unusual as the Negro unemployed chronically number more than half of this figure. Over 200 Negro families are receiving aid from social organizations and all farm tenants in the vicinity are being carried by their planter-employers. Both races are sharing in part-time employment.

### Oklahoma

Oklahoma City -- The social agency for Negro work is taxed beyond capacity and there has been a tremendous increase in the case-load for Negroes. In spite of the curtailment of the district formerly served by a colored worker, that department alone reported for January 1931 an increase of 67 per cent. over the listed families in January 1930. Of the 388 families served at this time, 171 had not been known to social agencies heretofore. In 364 of these families unemployment was the major problem. There is no free employment bureau in the city for Negroes other than the one operated by the State Labor Bureau.

### Texas

Austin -- Several organizations of Austin have released Negroes and replaced them with white workers. One colored man has been

appointed poll tax agent, the first recognition of this kind in this section.

Fort Worth -- Approximately 1,200 Negroes in Fort Worth are unemployed, with no relief in sight until the opening of agricultural work in June. Welfare agencies are caring for those in need.

Houston -- Several large concerns, including railroad shops, usually employing over 2,000 colored workers, began reducing forces early in 1930 until practically all were idle. The drought let loose a flood of rural workers, many of whom poured into Houston. Throughout December churches, social agencies, clubs and schools contributed freely to the relief of the unemployed, over half of whom were Negroes. Early in February considerable public work was opened up. However, Mexicans and whites have received the bulk of this work, very few Negroes being employed. Railroad shops are now showing signs of awakening and some men have been re-employed. The building of a railroad station is also expected to engage many men in the near future. Efforts have been made by certain agencies to replace Negro help with white, but employers have not been visibly affected by these programs.

San Antonio -- Early reports in February indicate that Negroes are still being released from jobs, in one instance being replaced by whites.

## THE MOUNTAIN STATES

The sparsely settled states in the Mountain section have not been seriously affected by the industrial depression. With a negligible Negro population represented, their unemployment problems are not distinguishable from the situation in general. However, a report comes from Colorado:

Denver -- The latter part of January and early February show definite signs of improvement in local unemployment, which at no time has been critical. Conferences between local and state officials relative to public work programs as preventive measures have received good responses and some work is being opened up.

## THE PACIFIC STATES

### California

Los Angeles -- Conditions of unemployment among Negroes are much worse than in November as evidenced by the placement of 96 men in January as compared to 133 in November, by the several employment agencies. Many instances of the replacement of Negro workers by whites have been reported, and hundreds of Negro domestic workers have been discharged and replaced by whites. Transient Mexican laborers are being deported and immigration restrictions have been made which are reducing the entrance of Mexicans to a minimum.

Berkeley -- Family relief is being given indiscriminately to Negroes and whites. No indication of employment trend has been given.

Washington

Seattle -- Although Negroes are found in many unique positions in this city, it cannot be said that they play a prominent part in the industries. In the immediate vicinity of Seattle there is no evidence of an early revival in industry. In the state at large, lumbering, meat packing and flour milling activities are being seen. Railroads have laid off more than the usual number of porters and dining car waiters. December 1930 showed an increase in case-load of social agencies of 74 per cent. over November, which in turn was 58 per cent. above the load of November 1929. The extent to which Negro families contributed in this report is undetermined. The Salvation Army is housing an average of 300 men each month, among whom are usually 18 to 20 Negroes.

Emergency relief work which began by registering the unemployed in November and December, listed 5,000 workers. Men are being employed in shifts of 150 each on city work, and are drawn in rotation without any discrimination.

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November 11, 1931.

Mr. T. Arnold Hill,  
Director, Department of Industrial Relations,  
National Urban League,  
1133 Broadway,  
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Hill:

This is merely a word to say that I have in mind your request for statistics from Commissioner Stewart's Division of this Department. Mr. Stewart, however, is still absent in Porto Rico, and, of course, I have been unable to lay the matter before him. Immediately upon his return, however, the latter part of this month, I shall take up with him personally your request, and feel that he will be glad to do whatever he can to be helpful.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Karl F. Phillips,  
Commissioner of Conciliation.

P. S. On November 3d, I was compelled to "cut" my New York visit to a very few hours, because of the pressure here.

Urban League