

MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE

1935 - 1945

JL

January 1, 1943.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mrs. Roosevelt has your letter and is so glad to know you are well enough to be at work again.

Mrs. Roosevelt will try and get a ticket for you for the opening of Congress and if she is successful she will send it to you. She feels fairly sure, but they are as scarce as proverbial hen's teeth.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

Mrs. Mary McL. Bethune
1812 Ninth Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Mary McLeod Bethune

22
1/1/43

1812 Ninth Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.
December 29, 1942

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am very happy to let you know that I am better and back at my desk in Washington. I arrived this morning feeling fine, but, of course, I must be careful.

May I thank you for the dainty box of goodies sent by you. It thrilled all of us. I shall be glad to see you when it is convenient for you.

Mrs. Roosevelt, I would like to attend the opening of the next Congress. I wonder if it would be possible for you to secure a ticket for me. If so, will you please mail it to me. I hope I am not asking too much.

Handwritten notes:
I will call you
about the ticket
if possible
Mary

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune

WAR MANPOWER COMMISSION
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION

2145 C Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

January 12, 1943

JAN 14 1943

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

You were so lovely to send me the ticket to the 78th Congress. I cannot tell you how much I appreciate those kind of things. It was history making to me and the womanhood of my race. Gallery 3, Row A, Seat 13 of the 78th Congress of the United States of America will be one of the paragraphs of my life history.

I am enclosing a Marian Anderson program which a good woman from St. Paul, Minnesota begged me to ask you to autograph for her. It you will autograph it and ask Miss Thompson to mail it to Mrs. Eva Neal, 531 St. Anthony Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota, I will greatly appreciate it.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune
Director of Negro Affairs



11
January 22, 1943.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mrs. Roosevelt has a letter from a young colored man who is in the army and he asks if she knows any colored people in Tampa, Florida, where he is now temporarily stationed.

Mrs. Roosevelt has corresponded with him over a period of several months and thought perhaps if you knew anyone in Tampa you might care to write directly to Private Cecil Peterson, 8th Aviation Squadron, O.T.U., McDill Field, Tampa Florida.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

Mrs. Mary McL. Bethune
Division of Negro Affairs
National Youth Administration

VLS

WAR MANPOWER COMMISSION
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION

2145 C Street, Northwest
Washington, D. C.

12-lead
1-30-43-82

January 28, 1943

100

Miss Bow

Miss Malvina C. Thompson
Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Miss Thompson:

Thanks for your note. I know many people in Tampa and I shall be very glad to send Private Cecil Peterson the addresses of some of the fine people there, who will be very happy to be of service to him while he is in that section. It was so kind of you to give me the opportunity of rendering this service.

I am here all of this week and next week until Saturday. I will be very happy if you can arrange a conference for me with Mrs. Roosevelt. It is important that I should see her on many matters that I consider of grave importance at this time.

When you can conveniently do this, you can inform me. Thanks so much.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune

Mary McLeod Bethune
Director of Negro Affairs

Shaw
4-30-44



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 30, 1943

file

MEMO FOR MR. GRIM:
MR. TOLLEY:
MRS. HALL:
MISS THOMPSON:

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune will be in to see
Mrs. Roosevelt at 4:30 on Thursday, February 4.

DD

WAR MANPOWER COMMISSION
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION
2145 C Street, Northwest
Washington, D. C.

February 5, 1943

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I was so busy yesterday afternoon, pleading for everyone else that I forgot about myself. I wanted to ask your opinion concerning the Dies attack. What must I do about it? It is beginning to annoy me. I cannot get the basis for his accusation. Please advise what you think I should do.

The war workers' dormitory, known as the Lucy Slowe Hall, located at Thirteenth and You Streets, Northwest, will be completed in about one month. A committee called upon me last night and requested me to confer with you and ask you to come out for a little dedication of this beautiful building, which furnishes unusual surroundings for 300 girls from all over the United States. I told them that I thought you would be glad to do this at some time that would be convenient for you. Please do not let anyone carry you around there until it is completed. They are anxious for you to see it in its completed form. It is a joy to see it.

Please write Pearl Buck and give her some idea of the program we thought of yesterday and inform me of the time you think will be suitable for our meeting. I shall hold myself in readiness for a statement from you. I shall appreciate it if you will also see Mrs. Pratt and decide what we will do in New York.

You are so gracious and helpful to me, Mrs. Roosevelt, for all of which I am most grateful.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune

Mary McLeod Bethune
Director of Negro Affairs



*Let the war workers all be
people to meet - Pearl Buck
frustrated - You should put
commenced at 10 days
FR 6-1943*

- Arthur

*Y. L. C. P.
Lendo*

February 6, 1943

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

I have done all the many things outlined in your memorandum and will await results.

I am sorry I must decline Dr. Ashburn's invitation.

I could go to Brooklyn Saturday evening, February 27, for a Bethune-Cookman meeting, and I might be able to go to a meeting in Chicago on March 22d if flying is possible.

I will let you know very soon about a date for the White House.

Very sincerely yours,

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P.S. (long hand) The meeting here could be March 3rd, but the Secret Service will not allow more than 100 so we must choose carefully. I can't settle this date 'till I hear from Mr. Embree.

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
1812 Ninth St. N.W.
Washington, D.C.

100
February 13, 1943.

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

If I were you I would get the most respectable white people I knew to write Mr. Dies and tell him they are outraged.

I would write but I am a Communist too, so Mr. Dies says!

I will write Mrs. Buck and I will speak to Mrs. Pratt.

Miss Thompson told me you thought the Brooklyn date too soon and that you had to be in Daytona on March 3rd. I am sorry I can not go to Daytona, and will wait further word from you as to possible dates.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Mary McL. Bethune
War Manpower Commission
National Youth Administration
2145 C Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

VDS

WAR MANPOWER COMMISSION
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION

2145 C Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

100

February 18, 1943

file

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

We will settle on March 29 for our meeting in Chicago as the best date for you. I am waiting for an answer from Brooklyn for a date there. I would like to have a big meeting here for Negro people and as many of the white friends as we can get at one of the large churches. We can do this sometime in March or early April. You will be the drawing card and we will get a good singer and possibly some other music and put forth a real effort for the College. I think it will be a wonderful thing and will give the Negro people here an opportunity to be patrons of a meeting where you will be the main speaker and share in a real effort for the College.

Now if we can get the White House meeting arranged, a meeting here at one of the churches, a meeting in Chicago and a meeting in Brooklyn, I think it will be grand. For the meeting here, whatever date is convenient for you, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune



WAR MANPOWER COMMISSION
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION

2145 C Street, Northwest
Washington, D. C.

February 26, 1943

Miss Malvina Thompson
Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Miss Thompson:

I find that the people in Brooklyn would like a longer time to prepare for the meeting with Mrs. Roosevelt and would like for me to send them a note from Mrs. Roosevelt to me assuring them of her appearance. They do not want to take anything for granted it seems. They would prefer a Sunday afternoon if that can be arranged. Now this will give you the trouble of going over Mrs. Roosevelt's schedule to ascertain whether or not she can go to them later on and on Sunday. Seemingly, she has never appeared in Brooklyn and they want to have a real big meeting. Please do what you can on this and write me so that I can write to them at once.

Would Mrs. Roosevelt like for me to suggest to her a few names for the meeting at the White House on the 12th and for the meeting at her home in New York on the 16th?

I am more pleased than I can express that we have Miss Buck for the evening of the 8th at Asbury Methodist Church. We have a very fine Negro quartet that will sing on the 8th and I would be happy if Mrs. Roosevelt would permit them to appear at the White House on the 12th.

With the Brooklyn date to be changed, our program stands as it has been planned.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune

P.S. Please ask Mrs. Roosevelt to invite Mr. Embree to the White House meeting here on the 12th. He thought she meant the Trustee meeting at the College on March 3.



I want you to say to Mrs. Roosevelt that I am very anxious to see her and would like to have a meeting at her home in New York on the 16th.

Miss Buck is a very fine Negro quartet that will sing on the 8th and I would be happy if Mrs. Roosevelt would permit them to appear at the White House on the 12th.

I should like to see her on the 12th.

12th

Note.

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February 25, 1943.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mrs. Roosevelt has your letter of February 22nd and agrees to stay on the Board of Bethune-Cookman College, but not too long.

I am returning two copies of the Proxy which Mrs. Roosevelt has signed.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

Mrs. Mary McL. Bethune
War Manpower Commission
National Youth Administration
2145 C. Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

VDS

WAR MANPOWER COMMISSION
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION

2145 C Street, Northwest
Washington, D. C.

ack
2/25/43

February 22, 1943

Mrs. Malvina Thompson
Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Thompson:

Please ask Mrs. Roosevelt to remain on the Board of Bethune-Cookman College at this time. It is very important that she does. We know she cannot attend the meetings but for my sake, ask her to remain for the present. When the time is ripe to release her, I shall be glad to suggest that it be done.

MR. King
ack

Please ask her to fill in the enclosed proxy to the Chairman of our Board, Bishop L. H. King, and send it in to the College.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune

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ack
2/25/43



M I N U T E S

of

THE ANNUAL MEETING

of

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

BETHUNE-COOKMAN COLLEGE
Daytona Beach, Florida

MARCH 2, 1942.

Daytona Beach, Florida
March 2, 1942

The Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Bethune-Cookman College was held on March 2, 1942 at 10 A.M. in Curtis Hall.

The meeting was opened with Prayer by Dr. Harry Wright McPherson, Executive Secretary of the Board of Education of the Methodist Church.

Prior to the Call of the Roll, President Bethune greeted the group and presented Bishop Lorenzo H. King, Chairman of the Board, as the Presiding Officer of this meeting.

The chairman announced the following as the Order of Business of this meeting:

- 1 - Call to Order
- 2 - Roll Call
- 3 - Minutes of last Annual meeting
- 4 - Financial Reports
- 5 - Report of the Executive Committee
- 6 - Report of the Advisory Board
- 7 - Report of the President
- 8 - Reports of Other Committees
- 9 - Election
- 10- Old or Unfinished Business
- 11- New Business
- 12- Adjournment

At the Call of the Roll the following members were noted present, in person or by proxy:

-In Person-

- 1 - Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
- 2 - Dr. T.A. Adams
- 3 - Rev. H.W. Bartley
- 4 - Mr. D.A. Boyd
- 5 - Atty. Thomas T. Cobb
- 6 - Mr. Herbert Davidson
- 7 - Dr. M.S. Davage
- 8 - Mr. Lawton L. Pratt
- 9 - Mr. W.S. Snead
- 10- Mr. D.E. Williams
- 11- Mr. G.D. Rogers
- 12- Bishop L.H. King
- 13- Mr. A.L. Lewis
- 14- Dr. F.D. Patterson
- 15- Mrs. Ferris J. Meigs
- 16- Mrs. C.K. Ranslow
- 17- Mrs. Richard Friend
- 18- Miss Margaret Rhodes
- 19- Dr. H.E. Bartley
- 20- Bishop Charles W. Flint
- 21- Dr. E.A. Graham

-By Proxy-

- 1 - Mr. Albert H. Ely
- 2 - Dr. Merrill J. Holmes
- 3 - Dr. Charles H. Johnson
- 4 - Dr. Jesse L. Murrell
- 5 - Dr. D.H. Rutter
- 6 - Dr. Kelsey L. Pharr
- 7 - Dr. Emmett J. Scott
- 8 - Dr. J. Harvey Smith
- 9 - Mr. Forrester B. Washington
- 10- Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
- 11- Attorney D.W. Perkins
- 12- Mr. J. Finley Wilson

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Annual Meeting of the
Board of Trustees,
March 2, 1942

Present also were Dr. Harry Wright McPherson, Executive Secretary of the Board of Education of the Methodist Church, and Dr. Frank West, of the Department of Financial Promotion of this Board.

In view of the fact that mimeographed copies of the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of 1941 had been mailed to each member of the Board just prior to this meeting.

ON MOTION, it was voted to dispense with the reading of the Minutes at this meeting and that the Minutes of the 1941 Annual meeting as written, be approved and adopted.

The Annual Financial Report, showing the position of the College at the close of the last fiscal year - June 30, 1941; and cumulative totals of current, endowment and plant funds as of January 31, 1942, was presented by the Secretary-Treasurer. Mimeographed copies of this report were distributed to members of the Board, in order that they might follow the figures, ask questions and make comments. Information from this report condensed, appears below:

BALANCE SHEET
END OF FISCAL YEAR
June 30, 1941

<u>ASSETS</u>	<u>LIABILITIES</u>
1 - CURRENT FUNDS - - -Total - - \$ 8,854.69	1 - CURRENT FUNDS - -Total- - \$ 7,882.97
11 - ENDOWMENT FUNDS - - -Total - - 95,762.49	11 - ENDOWMENT FUNDS -Total- - 95,762.49
111- PLANT FUNDS - - - -Total - 528,616.00	111- PLANT FUNDS - - -Total- - 528,616.00
NET WORTH - Assets Exceeded Liabilities July 1, 1940-\$445.44	
Assets Exceeded Liabilities July 1, 1940- 526.28	
TOTAL - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - \$971.72	

BALANCE SHEET
January 31, 1942

<u>ASSETS</u>	<u>LIABILITIES</u>
1 - CURRENT FUNDS - -Total - - \$ 7,261.79	1 - CURRENT FUNDS - -Total- - \$ 23,652.00
11 - ENDOWMENT FUNDS -Total - - 145,777.49	11- ENDOWMENT FUNDS -Total- - 145,777.49
111- PLANT FUNDS - - -Total - - 528,616.00	111- PLANT FUNDS - - -Total- - 528,616.00
NET WORTH - Assets Exceeded Liabilities July 1, 1941 - \$971.72	

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Annual Meeting of the
Board of Trustees
March 2, 1942

COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEETS

(Current Fund)

	January 31, 1941 (1941)	January 31, 1942 (1942)	January 31, 1942 (1941)
ASSETS - Total - -	\$ 7,261.79	\$ 8,110.44	\$ 23,652.00 - \$ 15,916.67
LIABILITIES - Total -			
OPERATING DEFICITS -			
January 31, 1942	16,390.21		
January 31, 1941		7,806.23	
	<u>\$23,652.00</u>	<u>\$23,652.00</u>	<u>\$15,916.67</u>
	\$15,916.67		\$15,916.67

SUMMARY OF INCOME AND EXPENSE, January 31, 1942

(Compared with Budget Appropriations)	BUDGET 1941-1942	ACTUAL (Income (Expense) to January 31 1942	Balance (Unrealized)
INCOME			
From Students	\$ 26,335.00	\$ 12,470.33	\$ 13,864.67
From Student Activities	5,431.00	5,892.07	(461.07)
From Special Schools & Depts	975.00	832.39	142.61
From Endowment	5,487.50	4,159.10	1,328.40
From Contributions	28,985.00	13,322.14	15,662.86
From Business Enterprises:			
Sale of Textbooks	2,600.00	1,287.85	1,312.15
Value of Saleable Textbooks	250.00	652.60	(402.60)
Boarding Department	27,365.00	12,889.16	14,475.84
Dormitories & Residences	8,375.00	2,701.00	5,674.00
Cabin Cafeteria Sales	1,800.00	1,535.15	264.85
Farm	1,900.00	875.02	1,024.98
Laundry	4,700.00	2,034.86	2,665.14
Other Income	740.00	853.11	(84.01)
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$ 114,943.50</u>	<u>\$ 59,504.78</u>	<u>\$ 55,438.72</u>
EXPENSE			
Administrative & General	\$ 13,337.00	8,239.84	4,797.16
Operation & Maintenance	16,155.50	11,727.45	4,425.05
Instructional	36,241.00	16,277.76	19,963.24
Student Activities	2,990.00	4,721.34	(1,731.34)
Campaigns, Publicity & Prom.	4,890.00	3,298.94	1,994.81
Business Enterprises -			
Textbook Purchases	2,200.00	1,732.39	467.61
Boarding Department	19,615.00	12,880.75	5,734.25
Dormitories & Residences	7,860.00	6,345.94	1,513.86
Farm	2,500.00	1,322.51	1,177.49
Laundry	3,345.00	4,548.48	(1,203.48)
Cabin-Cafeteria Expense	1,400.00	2,443.28	(1,043.28)
Other Expense	410.00	461.64	(51.64)
Losses in Estimated Income from Students	4,000.00	1,866.39	2,133.61
TOTAL EXPENSE	<u>\$114,943.50</u>	<u>75,866.71</u>	<u>39,076.79</u>

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Annual Meeting of the
Board of Trustees,
March 2, 1942

BALANCE SHEET - BETHUNE-COOKMAN COLLEGE
ENDOWMENT FUND -
January 31, 1942

ASSETS -

Cash Balance	\$ 154.29
Local Endowment Fund investments-	
Securities - Bonds	14,911.25
Securities - Stocks	5,778.24
Real Estate -Mortgages-	
Roscoe Raub, Daytona Beach	3,250.00
Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Mier, Holly Hill	840.00
Accrued Interest purchased with securities	81.69
Endowment Fund Refundable Campaign Expense	1,048.56
Endowment Funds held in trust by the Board of Education of the Methodist Church	52,213.46
Endowment Funds held in trust - Cleveland Trust Company - Thomas H. White Estate	67,500.00

LIABILITIES -

Endowment Fund Principal	
Local Fund	26,064.03
Funds held in Trust by Methodist Board	52,213.46
Funds held in Trust by Cleveland Trust Company	67,500.00
TOTAL -	<u>\$ 145,777.49</u> <u>145,777.49</u>

At the close of the reading of the Financial Report, President Bethune emphasized the fact that the College is experiencing difficulty in financing the work. Students are paying their charges but gifts from the philanthropic public are very few. NYA for college students has been reduced 30%. Mrs. Bethune expressed her desire and determination to have the program of Bethune-Cookman merged, as rapidly as possible, into Federal educational programs in order that the doors may be kept open. She requested further cooperation and advice from Dr. Patterson, whose experience with such federal affiliations at Tuskegee Institute enable him to give us valuable suggestions. Dr. Patterson has already been responsible for sponsoring a Commercial Dietetics Division in Bethune-Cookman College, has sent one of his most outstanding graduates to inaugurate and direct this work in our Institution. The State Vocational Board has given aid to this department by underwriting the salary of the instructor.

It was stated that the Farm has been assigned to the State Vocational Department also, for the purpose of sponsoring an Agricultural project for NYA youths.

-5-
Annual Meeting of the
Board of Trustees
March 2, 1942

This project has met with success - first, in the training of the youths and in the provision of a much larger amount of farm produce for the Boarding Department. It was announced by the President that the Trades Shop for defense industries is completed and now in operation. That the College is teaching classes six instead of five days each week.

President Bethune closed her remarks by stating that the College has gone to its limit in integration of our program with whatever Federal opportunities that might be presented. The College has gone to its limit in securing funds. Mrs. Bethune mentioned that she had made a definite statement to the Trustees in annual session in 1941, indicating that it was impossible for her to carry on as President unless she could feel the weight of this Board. More work and more activity are required of a President at this time than in former years. Our great need now is for funds to meet the demands of operation of the current year.

Mr. Rogers spoke of the Board, making the observation that the College is in the best physical condition that he has ever known and is particularly attractive with the increased activity on the Farm and in the Trades Shop. He expressed the opinion that this Board in session at this annual meeting, should take definite action in the matter of financing the Institution.

ON MOTION, the Financial Reports as presented by the Secretary-Treasurer, were received and adopted.

ON MOTION, it was voted to hear the Reports of the Executive Committee and of the Advisory Board, after which the Order of this Meeting will be changed for the purpose of discussing plans for the Financial welfare of the College.

The Chairman appointed the following Nominating Committee:

Mr. G.D. Rogers, Chairman
Mr. E.E. Williams
Mr. B.A. Boyd
Mr. W.S. Snead
Dr. M.S. Davage

The Report of the Executive Committee was given by the Chairman, Attorney Thomas T. Cobb. This report consisted of a Summary of the accomplishments of this group during the Trustee year, as follows:

- 1 - Direction of the erection of the Harrison Rhodes Memorial Library, made possible from funds contributed by the friends of the late Mr. Harrison G. Rhodes. Miss Margaret Rhodes, a member of the Executive Committee contributed all furnishings for the building and the General Education Board made an appropriation of \$5,000 for books. In view of the fact that there are no library facilities for Negroes in Daytona Beach, except those provided by the College, we are asking the City of Daytona Beach to make an appropriation in their current budget to help maintain the library service.

Annual Meeting of the
Board of Trustees,
March 2, 1942

- 2 - Direction of the transfer of property for the NYA Trades Shop and advisory service in the erection of this building, which has been provided solely through Mrs. Bethune's influence and Government contacts.
- 3 - Direction of minor repairs to College buildings and equipment.
- 4 - The interest of the Executive Committee in the daily operation of the College has increased during the year. Local press relations have been particularly good during the year and the community, therefore, has a clearer realization of what the College is doing. The trustees of the Institution, through the Executive Committee, have had more direct contact with the administration, and have been more willing to hear the problems and progress of the administration.
- 5 - The Executive Committee has been vitally interested in the raising of current funds and in giving counsel to the college officials on business transactions.

ON MOTION, the Report of the Executive Committee was received, with the appreciation of the Trustee Board, and adopted.

The Report of the Advisory Board was given by the Chairman, Mrs. Harold T. Butts, as follows:

- 1 - There have been four regular meetings and two special meetings of the Board since my term as chairman. All meetings have been well attended with great cooperation on the part of all members.
- 2 - Each standing committee is allotted forty dollars, per annum, for their department.
- 3 - Report of the Library Committee -
Last spring, when the oncoming war cast its shadows before the library committee, an urge was felt to attack the problem of a suitable building for the 11,000 books and several hundred students. The old building, outgrown, damp, inflammable, made it difficult for Bethune-Cookman to maintain its rating with the Florida Board of Education.

The committee consulted Harry Griffin, architect, who had already built Faith and Science Halls with much satisfaction to all.

As a preliminary study had been made in 1938, by Mr. Griffin, Miss Rhodes and Miss Henry, it was a simple matter to engage Mr. Griffin's interest in a new study of our needs.

The library Committee are under obligation to our architect for his continued generosity and patience.

A fund of \$20,000, in New York, subscribed by friends of Harrison Rhodes was made available for use provided an endowment of not less than \$20,000 be found to maintain the new library.

Annual Meeting of the
Board of Trustees,
March 2, 1942.

Then the \$50,000 from the Pfeiffer estate was assigned the College, through the Methodist Board of Education, and Mrs. Bethune promised the endowment necessary for the Library out of it, the way was clear to go ahead with the building.

On June 6th, 1941, a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Trustees of the College authorized the building of the front unit, with money on hand. The remaining stack-room, lecture room and museum to be added as soon as \$6000 for this purpose is available. Mrs. Heigs and her committee are due our united gratitude.

- 4 - Report of Farm Department-
Donations March, 1941 to March, 1942
111 Five-year-old Orange Trees
100 Baby Chicks - two weeks old
Corn and Bean Seed
Plants for Farm

Mrs. Ranslow is advisory board member on Farm Department, and ever the loyal and staunch friend of Bethune-Cookman College.

- 5 - Curtis Hall -
Repairs made on living room furniture.
Electric Light wall outlets (for reading lamps) on first and third floors.
Formerly only drop ceiling lights in students' rooms, not conducive to good study

A Christmas party was given the girls on December 20th by the Chairman, Mrs. Fi-London, as a reward for keeping their dormitory in first class order and cleanliness.

- 6 - Cookman Hall -
Through a gift of money, the chairman, Mrs. Taylor, purchased three strong mahogany chairs, second-hand, for the living room, and placed beautiful val hangings in windows of same. Electric floor outlets were put in 22 rooms on 2nd floor.

- 7 - Boys' Wood Crafts -
A small new band saw machine with motor purchased by Mrs. Taylor with Advisory Board money - enabled boys to make a number of small articles, which sell readily - giving them a small but steady income to use for materials. A generous gift of suitable lumber for small bread-boards from a member of the committee, has been most appreciated. Mrs. Taylor resigned as Chairman of this department with regret, as she feels it is a department from which the school may expect bigger things.

- 8 - The Sewing Department-
A large number of first-class articles which reflect much credit on the school and the teacher, Mrs. Bond, have been turned out by this department. The hand-woven ties, towels, bags, jackets, and so forth, are much admired and have been sold almost as fast as they come off the looms. With more backing and encouragement, it should be possible for this department to assist very materially in the support of the college.

Annual Meeting of the
Board of Trustees,
March 2, 1942

9 - Domestic Science Department -

Under the excellent supervision of Mr. Francis and the loving guidance of Mrs. Friend, the countless delicious goodies are coming from the kitchen of this department. Several hundred pounds of fruit cake was made and sold during the holiday season, at \$1.00 per pound. Fine narmalades and jellies are offered for sale there at all times, and orders taken for fancy cakes and dainties.

10- The plans for the Advisory Board Spring Fete are all made and under way for March 12th this year. The loyalty and interest of all members of the Board, together with the magnificent support of the faculty and student body make all our efforts a source of great joy and very real happiness.

Respectfully sub mitted - Eileen H. Butts-
(Mrs. Harold T.)

At the close of the reading of the report of the Advisory Board, President Bethune rose to pay tribute of gratitude for the work of this Board. "The heart of Bethune-Cookman," she stated, "can readily be seen through this report."

ON MOTION, it was voted to receive, with gratitude and praise, and adopt the report of the Advisory Board.

Mrs. Ferris J. Meigs, Chairman of the Library Committee of the Advisory Board, which worked so diligently for the erection of the Harrison Rhodes Memorial Library, was presented to the Board.

At this time, Dr. Harry Wright McPherson, Executive Secretary of the Board of Education of the Methodist Church, was presented to the Board.

Dr. McPherson stated that Bethune-Cookman College is one of the fourteen institutions sponsored by the Board of Education, for Negro youths in America. He expressed the interest of the Board in all of these institutions, and its desire to give all possible help and advice to those who have immediate, pressing needs. Dr. McPherson expressed his appreciation for all that has been accomplished in Bethune-Cookman College and expressed his determination that this institution shall make the progress of which it is capable. He presented to the Board Dr. Frank West, Head of the Department of Promotional Finance of the Board of Education, who is here to work carefully with the Institution in its plans to raise funds to meet its needs at this time.

Dr. West greeted the Board. He stated that he had thirty years' experience in the raising of funds and that he felt that money solicited must be invested for its greatest working efficiency. If the potential contributor can be convinced that \$1.00 invested in an enterprise will bring \$1.25 in principal and interest, he may be influenced to give. Dr. West raised the question as to the total needs of Bethune-Cookman College, in the order of their importance to the school's development. He expressed the opinion that the most important need of all is an adequate endowment - an endowment that will produce sufficient operating funds to maintain the work. Instead of thinking in terms of raising \$500,000, which figure has been discussed, it seems advisable to bring our Endowment figure to \$1,000,000, which will bring to the

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college returns commensurate with the maintenance needs of the Institution. This means that there is need to raise \$905,000 in endowment to add to the present endowment figure. Dr. West stated that this is an opportune time for the College to capitalize on Mrs. Bethune's popularity in the country and suggested that this Board work out a definite immediate campaign for capital funds. In this connection it will be necessary to plan a good Prospectus and employ a good man for solicitation.

There was a full discussion of possible plans for a financial campaign, such as has been suggested by Dr. West. Mrs. Meigs raised the question as to the amount that the Board of Education of the Methodist Church would give to start such a campaign. In this connection she requested the reading of the agreement of the Board of Education with this Institution, for she felt that the terms of this agreement have not been met.

The secretary read the Agreement, following which there was a discussion on the part of the members of the Board. Dr. McPherson earnestly requested the Board to refrain from any bickering or statements of disagreement at this time, as it detracts from the important, immediate issue of financing the Institution. The united efforts of the Board of Trustees and of the Board of Education are essential, if we are to achieve a financial objective. If anything in the past requires discussion, there is no advantage in such a discussion in connection with this objective, at this particular time.

Attorney Cobb stated that he had heard, for the first time, the Agreement entered into by the Board of Trustees and the Board of Education of the Methodist Church, at the time of the merger with old Cookman Institute. He stated that even though the Methodist Board had, at that time committed itself to an annual maintenance appropriation of \$20,000 to the Institution, there is still need to secure additional funds to meet current operating expenses. The economic security of the College is of major importance at this time, and the pressing need for endowment funds, for buildings and for maintenance funds makes it imperative for the Boards to face the problem at this time.

Bishop Flint expressed his opinion that the Board of Education has done more than was agreed to be done for the Institution, according to the instrument read in this meeting. He deplored a resurgence of any old antagonisms and requested a sincere and harmonious consideration of the present campaign for funds.

President Bethune spoke to the Board with sincere emphasis. She stated that she recognized the need for stronger protection and backing than our Trustee Board could give to the Institution when she sought the sponsorship and National influence of the Methodist Board. She stated that there may be possibilities that the Agreement made between the Methodist Board and our Board of Trustees in 1923 has not been carried out to the letter, and according to the interpretation of all members of this Board. In view of the fact, however, that the Board of Education of the Methodist Church is now willing to stand right back of the College in its efforts to provide much-needed funds for the support of the work, she feels that any differences of opinion must be suppressed. The President stated that the Board of Education had agreed, upon her request, to help us inaugurate a financial campaign. She stated that neither she nor the Board of Trustees can raise one million dollars at this time and the help of the Board of Education is essential.

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Following this discussion, it was generally conceded that the thinking and planning of the Trustees and the Board of Education will blend for the success of the present needs of the College.

Dr. West stated that the general plan for a Financial Campaign at this time will be to raise \$1,137,000, for endowment, buildings, and maintenance, details of publicity, promotion and solicitation to be worked out between both Boards.

ON MOTION, it was voted, by standing vote of the trustees present, to approve the Plan for a Financial Campaign immediately, details of which are to be worked out by the Board of Trustees and the Board of Education of the Methodist Church; with the proviso that all local work in connection with such a Campaign be directed by the Executive Committee.

The Thirty-Seventh Annual Report of the President, was given by Mrs. Bethune.

- 1 - She expressed, on the part of the administration, deep appreciation for the opportunity of service. "Year after year", Mrs. Bethune stated, "the burden incident to the administration and support of a growing educational institution becomes heavier. Nevertheless, I cannot find one trace of regret or lack of faith in my heart - even when the most difficult problems present themselves. The years are taking their toll of my strength, of course. More often now than in the earlier years I find myself deep in introspection - debating, again and again, the thought that my strength, sustained as it is by HIS strength, is not sufficient for this task"
- 2 - President Bethune expressed her gratitude to the trustees, Executive Committee and to the loyal Advisory Board members, for their encouragement and stimulus of the daily program.
- 3 - She suggested the evaluation and re-evaluation of our objectives, program, personnel and management.
- 4 - Enrollment reported - 252 students. The mental calibre of students is much higher than it was five years ago, because of the improved high school facilities in the State. Our graduates are holding positions creditably and making good records in other Institutions.
- 5 - The health of the students has been good during the year. A full-time nurse has been on the staff and the health program under Dr. Adams' supervision has been sound.
- 6 - The spiritual life of the campus continues to grow through the medium of the Sunday School, Young People's Religious Organizations, Prayer Meetings, regular Church attendance and voluntary participation in local church work.
- 7 - The President stated further that we have embarked this year upon the third year of training, in the four-year program of Teacher-Education. This has been a welcome venture to an interesting group of young people.

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A thorough study of curricula and State requirements was made by Dean Bond and his staff before this step was presented for the Board's consideration two years ago. The complete outline of courses proposed for the advanced work was submitted to the State Department of Education and approved by them before any announcement of the third-year was made. In addition to the subject-matter courses on the third-year level, which have been given this year, the practice-teaching of our trainees has been extended to many rural schools of the one-teacher and two-teacher type, in Volusia County. Groups of trainees have spent three and five day periods in rural communities, living and teaching under the chaperonage and supervision of the regularly appointed teacher. This expansion of the practice-teaching program gives each trainee opportunity to work in a rural school, in our six-teacher laboratory school on the campus and in the combined elementary and high school organization.

It was recommended by the President that the trustees take action at this meeting, authorizing the granting of the Bachelor of Science Degree in Education to those candidates who meet the requirements in 1943.

- 8 - Expansion to the four-year level is only in Teacher-Education. We continue the two-year programs in Agriculture, Home Economics, Business and Liberal Arts and Sciences.
- 9 - Interesting new Division on the two-year level is Commercial Dietetics. Work needed to meet apparent need among our boys and girls for specialized training in food preparation and service for commercial purposes. Tuskegee Institute a pioneer in this field and the President of this Institution - one of our valued trustees - agreed to help build up this department here, since we are located in the midst of hotels and tourist trade. Dr. Patterson sent to us an expert instructor, a young man who has commanded the respect and admiration of students, faculty and community. State Vocational Board and NYA have cooperated in providing salary and furnishing trainees for this work.
- 10 - Foods, Clothing and Crafts Departments are productive. 275 pounds of fruit cake were made and shipped during December. The Farm is being operated as special Agricultural Project under State Vocational Board and NYA. These Agencies provide salaries, supplies and trainees for the Project.
- 11 - Harrison Rhodes Memorial Library is a cherished dream come true - a tribute to that loyal friend who gave so completely of his confidence, generosity and guidance to the Institution in the early days. Entire campus enhanced by this building and the entire educational program enriched. Gratitude expressed to friends of Harrison Rhodes, to Miss Margaret Rhodes, to the Library Committee of the Advisory Board, and to the General Education Board for this beautiful, well-equipped building.
- 12 - It was recognized, many months ago, that there was need for the integration of our program, as rapidly as possible, into the national defense program. Service of Defense Trades Shop is significant. Our Boards generously supported the idea of deeding a parcel of land to the Volusia County Board of Public Instruction, in order that this building might be erected. Equipment furnished for Auto-Mechanics, Sheet Metal, Welding, Woodwork, Electrical work, Ship-building

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Shops are operated twenty-four hours daily, for NYA youths and for adults. The College furnishes boarding and lodging for the youths on the project.

- 12 - Community Service has shown distinct progress during the year. The City officials, local newspaper, outstanding citizens - all are helping the College to grow. College influence felt in the community life. Interracial contacts helping to overcome prejudice. Keyser Laboratory school link with community. Community financial support - \$2,500 in Spring Drive.
- 13 - National contacts and new friends made by the President - Mrs. Doris Duke Cromwell, Mr. Barry Bingham, Mr. Nelson Rockefeller, Mr. Marshall Field, 3rd, Mr. Lessing Rosenwald, Mr. Bernard Baruch, Mr. Albert Ely.
- 14 - Financial situation at the present time. College faces severe problems of maintenance.
- 15 - President's recommendations to the Board:
 - a)-That a review of our entire program, as to business, maintenance and instruction, be made by a small committee appointed by this Board, with a view to helping us practice every conceivable economy.
 - b)-That desperate efforts be put forth to supplement the present operating income.
 - c)-That a campaign be set up, to raise \$1,200,000 for endowment, buildings and equipment.
 - d)-That the faculty be authorized to offer the Bachelor of Science Degree in Education to those who complete four years of elementary education in 1943.

ON MOTION, it was voted to receive with appreciation, and adopt the Report of the President; and to give the full approval of the Board of Trustees to her Recommendations.

The following Committee was appointed by the Chairman, to make a close study of the business and maintenance of the College:

Attorney Cobb, Chairman of the Executive Committee
Mrs. Harold T. Butts, Chairman of the Advisory Board

At this time there was a discussion of the present operating deficit, with the floor open for suggestions for the raising of funds to efface it. It was the consensus of opinion that this important problem facing the school should not be left entirely to the Executive Committee but that every member of the Trustee Board should feel the responsibility for helping the College - particularly during this period when donations are not received as they have been in the past.

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Dr. Patterson, Mr. Lewis and Mr. Rogers concurred in this opinion and suggested that members of the Board send out letters to friends and prospective donors, urging them to share in the responsibility of the operation of this Institution.

The Report of the Nominating Committee, Mr. Rogers, Chairman, was given, as follows:

The Nominating Committee recommends:

Trustees to be re-elected for three years

- 1 - Bishop L.H. King
- 2 - Mr. A.L. Lewis
- 3 - Dr. F D Patterson
- 4 - Dr. Kelsey L. Pharr

Trustees to be elected for three years

- 1 - Mrs. Gertrude W. Fi-London
Daytona Beach, Florida
- 2 - Mr. John Hammond
New York City
- 3 - Mr. R. O'Hara Lanier
Hampton, Virginia
- 4 - Miss Thelma Stevens
New York City

Officers of the Board March 3, 1942 - March 3, 1943

Bishop L.H. King	-----	Chairman
Attorney Thomas T. Cobb	-----	Vice-Chairman
Mr. Herbert Davidson	-----	Endowment Treasurer
Bertha L. Mitchell	-----	Secretary-Treasurer

Membership Executive Committee:

Attorney Thomas T. Cobb, Chairman
Mrs. Gertrude Fi-London
Mr. W S Snead
Dr. T A Adams
Atty. Paul Harvey
Mr. Herbert Davidson
Dr. George W. Pollack
Miss Margaret Rhodes
Mrs. Richard Friend
Mrs. C M Ranslow
Mr. A L Lewis
Dr. Kelsey Pharr
Mr. G D Rogers
Rev. H W Bartley

Membership Finance Committee:

Attorney Thomas T. Cobb
Mrs. C. M. Ranslow
Mr. A. L. Lewis
Mr. G. D. Rogers
Dr. George W. Pollack
Dr. Kelsey L. Pharr
Attorney D. W. Perkins
Dr. Jesse L. Murrell
Mr. W. S. Snead
Mr. F. C. Walcott
Mr. T. Nelson O'Rourke
Mr. Herbert Davidson

ON MOTION, it was voted to accept and adopt
the Report of the Nominating Committee

BENEDICTION by Bishop Charles W. Flint.

ADJOURNMENT.

Bertha L. Mitchell, Secretary.

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M I N U T E S

of

THE SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

of

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

BETHUNE-COOKMAN COLLEGE
Daytona Beach, Florida.

DECEMBER 15, 1942.

Bethune-Cookman College,
Daytona Beach, Florida.

December 15, 1942.

A Special Called Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Bethune-Cookman College was held on Thursday, December 15, 1942, at 2 p. m., at the home of Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune.

The Chairman, Bishop Lorenzo H. King, presided.

Bishop King opened the meeting with Prayer.

The Chairman called the Meeting to Order and stated that the purpose of the meeting had been given in the call, namely,

To consider and act upon the request of Mrs. Bethune for retirement from the Presidency of Bethune-Cookman College,
and

To consider and act upon her recommendation for her successor.

At the Call of the Roll, the following members of the Board were noted "present," in person or by proxy:

-In Person-

- 1- Mrs. Gertrude W. Fi-London
- 2- Bishop Lorenzo H. King
- 3- Mr. A. L. Lewis
- 4- Rev. H. W. Bartley
- 5- Dr. H. E. Bartley
- 6- Attorney Thomas T. Cobb
- 7- Dr. E. A. Graham
- 8- Dr. L. S. Davage
- 9- Dr. George W. Pollack
- 10- Mr. Lawton L. Pratt
- 11- Dr. J. Harvey Smith
- 12- Attorney D. W. Perkins
- 13- Mr. Joe H. James
- 14- Mrs. Ferris J. Leigs
- 15- Mrs. C. M. Ranslow
- 16- Mr. G. D. Rogers
- 17- Dr. T. A. Adams

-By Proxy-

- 1- Dr. F. D. Patterson
- 2- Dr. Kelsey L. Pharr
- 3- Mr. D. A. Boyd
- 4- Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
- 5- Mr. D. E. Williams
- 6- Mr. John Harmond
- 7- Mr. Forrester Washington

Present also, by special permission of the Board, were Mrs. Harold T. Butts, Chairman of the Advisory Board of the College, and Mr. Maxwell W. Saxon, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the General Alumni Association.

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The Chairman presented President Bethune, who addressed the Board.

Mrs. Bethune:-

"Thank you, Bishop. I hope you will permit me to remain seated.

First of all, I want you to realize with me that this is a significant moment in my life. This is the moment that I knew, some day, would come, but its coming brings a peculiar spiritual feeling difficult for one who has not had the experience, to realize. Thirty-eight years ago, when we started out here, we realized that there would be a termination some day. As I look back now over the years, as I see the harvest from the seeds that have been sown, as I receive the realization of the dreams of the years in these buildings, grounds and equipments, and above all, in the thousands of young lives that have been touched and inspired - young men and young women who are now bearing the torchlight of service here, there and everywhere, I approach this moment with gratitude to the God we all love and serve, for the privilege of spending all of these years - thirty-eight long years - in this one service, and in bringing this school to the place where we now find it.

For the past five or ten days I have been looking into the past, realizing the present and thinking of the future. I want to express my deep appreciation to the Board of Trustees, the Advisory Board and the Alumni Association, and to the great Board of the Church, Foundations and individuals located all over this land, who have given us of their influence, means and service. I do not look back with any regrets. I know that many things have been left undone that should have been done - many things done in a way that might not have been most effective - but though some mistakes have been made our hand has been steadfastly in God's hand during the years, and the light of His countenance has never failed to shine about us.

Today, as I sit in these closing moments of my administrative day in this Institution that has been the unfolding of my soul, there is a peculiar, strange feeling within me. For the past days I have wanted to be alone - spending time only occasionally with a few friends. I have been questioning my soul, trying to find if there is any selfish motive within me, whether I have given to this Institution of my physical ability to its limit, whether, for the good of the Institution I should, even now, endeavor to make another step. I have been convinced that we have now, as I see it, two important lives to save and perpetuate if we can - the first in importance, because of its wide service and influence, is the life of this Institution. If the life of this school is to be saved I feel that we must work rapidly, in these times, to put vigor and strength and greater vision into the program than I can furnish. I am tired, I am weary; my faith is as strong as it has always been but my physical strength will not answer now to the demands of the things to be done. Therefore, I felt that it was important for the sake of the Institution to ask the Chairman of our Board to call an emergency meeting of the Trustees, in order that important issues of the moment, affecting Institutions of this kind, might not be neglected. Our chairman was in the midst of an important meeting, when I asked him, with trembling voice over the telephone, to call this meeting, but

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he graciously consented to call the Board at this time.

Then, my trustees, I found myself three or four weeks ago with six doctors around me. Dr. Adams did not undress for two night but stayed by my beside. The margin was so narrow that I felt that I could no longer fool myself, my trustees and my friends of what needed to be done. My doctors told me that I would have to give up this responsibility and live, or hold it and die. I felt that this life needed to be preserved for a few more days or weeks if only to point the way, to help to guide and exercise influence for the Institution. So I felt that it was necessary for me to make a request for retirement, so that both of these lives might be preserved - the life of the College and my own life. To permit me to retire from the active administrative duties of the College, to find someone younger and more vigorous for the task, someone who could consecrate himself or herself to the needs of the hour, who could shoulder the responsibilities and give to the Institution the leadership that it needs in a day like this - will preserve the life of the Institution. Therefore, with this beautiful plant - thirty-four acres, fourteen buildings, equipments, sixty-six lots, one hundred seventy-eight acres of woodland - a fine faculty and student body, a grand host of alumni and graduates and friends, with the greatest service I have been able to give and the gratitude of my soul - I wish to lay this school upon the hearts and shoulders of this Board. May I say to you that I have done my best and I must now entrust it to you, with the feeling that you will not shrink from the responsibilities that are yours and must be yours as the years go by. You know of the prayers and the hardships, the joys and the sorrows that have gone into the building of this beautiful institution. There is nothing on earth so beautiful to me as this school. I have two children - my son, Albert, and Bethune-Cookman College. I gave birth to both of them and I love them with a devotion that can never die. All that I can give in helpfulness will always be given to them. I am asking you to permit me to retire into general activities that I may be inclined to do. I may be in Australia or London or Africa: I want moments of leisure to think or do whatever my heart or mind may dictate to me.

I have prayed earnestly for a successor - someone to take this work after me. I know that such a person will not do just as I have done, nor do it in the same way I have done it. I do not want that you nor I shall think that someone else will do things in the way Mrs. Bethune did them. Someone must come and in his own way, with the guidance of God and you, according to the needs and demands and developments of the hour, carry on this work.

Several months ago I threw my mantle to the winds. I have travelled, as you know, from Maine to California, from the deep South to the great Northern areas, and have been touching men and women everywhere. I have prayed that my mantle would fall on someone whom it would fit and who could carry on my work. I remember when dear Amanda Smith came to me one day and said - "Mary McLeod Bethune, I have been to Africa three times; I have travelled around the world; I have been looking for someone upon whom to throw my mantle. As I talk with you, Mary Bethune, I believe you are the one to wear my mantle. Get down here, child, and let us pray." We were in the middle of the grounds, but we dropped to our knees. This consecration that I received as a young woman and the inspiration I

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received from Dr. Dwight L. Moody have carried me through the years. I had hoped that I could find a woman to wear my mantle but it seems that I cannot find one, consequently I have brought to you my recommendation of a young man, thirty-three years of age, consecrated, trained, clean in character, spiritual, with a vision of service. You will not find another president to carry this work as fully as I have had to carry it, because it is my own child. You have a greater responsibility now than you have ever had before. You will be concerned about things now as you have never been concerned before. I am placing this institution on your shoulders and your hearts, and I am recommending as my successor, Mr. James A. Colston, who, with your guidance, help and support will, I believe, carry on this work in a way that will be pleasing to God and to you.

As I retire from the presidency of this beautiful Institution, I retire simply from active service - not from devotion nor helpfulness. May God bless and inspire you and give you faith and understanding to carry on in the days that are to come. My blessings are yours. May my gratitude for the service of thirty-eight years be a rich heritage to those yet to come."

Bishop King:

"Friends, you have heard Mrs. Bethune's statement - a very moving and remarkable statement. I might have anticipated such a statement as this. I confess that I have no response now to make. I would like to hear from you and ascertain just what your reaction is to this statement."

Dr. Davage:

"While we anticipated as you said, Mr. Chairman, that this action would be requested, and anticipated just how Mrs. Bethune would present her request, my own reaction is that, in the first place, we are not prepared to make a fitting response. A fitting response and a formal acceptance should be made at our annual meeting, when we have prepared a program for thirty-eight years of service. This should be done by the trustees, friends and representatives of the annual Conferences. This is not the time. If Bishop King cannot make a response, I am sure I cannot. We can talk out of our hearts, but technically, we cannot let Mrs. Bethune retire from the presidency of Bethune-Cookman College into a little group like this. It seems to me that there are two items requiring the action of the Board -

- First - To act on Mrs. Bethune's request for retirement
- Second - To act on her recommendation of her successor

I do not like the word 'retire' - 'release' from the detailed responsibility of administration would be better. We do expect that Mrs. Bethune shall have an active interest in the school even though she is relieved of the responsibility of administration. On behalf of the Board of Education, I can say simply this - that Mrs. Bethune, through the years, has had their confidence and admiration and possibly, because of their confidence, they have placed too great a responsibility upon her. Dr. McPherson, Executive Secretary of the Board, has asked me to express his regret that he cannot be at this meeting.

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He sends his personal regrets to Mrs. Bethune and has asked me to express these as the sentiments of the Board of Education of the Methodist Church. In my brief time that I have been with the Board, Mrs. Bethune knows just what my own personal attitude has been.

Dr. Smith:

"Bishop and Chairman of the Board - I suppose I am among those who knew at first hand of Mrs. Bethune's beginning. I know how hard she has labored. We must honor and praise Mrs. Bethune for building this plant worth \$600,000, starting with \$1.50. We will not give up Mrs. Bethune but must have her as President-Emeritus. Her interest must be here. I am sorry she has to retire but we will accept the man to whom she is entrusting her duties. We hope that she will be here to guide us for the next twenty or twenty-five years. Today, I am happy to know that she is living through all of her struggles, to be with us and work with us."

The Chairman expressed gratification for these fitting statements of appreciation and evaluation of Mrs. Bethune's service and asked for more immediate action and response to the two items which are before the Board.

Mr. Lewis:

"Mr. Chairman, and members of the Board, I am pleased to be present at this meeting for, of many meetings, I consider this the most important. It is important to consider the retirement of a 'chief executive' who, with little money and Faith in God, built an institution like this, who has given to the Church and the Race a plant such as this one. Now that her health is not so good, she feels it is time to retire. We deeply regret this. It is heart-rending to think of giving her up. If we must accept her retirement I think that Dr. Davage's suggestion should be followed - that we should accept with the Conferences and with the people of America.

ON MOTION OF MR. ROGERS, seconded by REV. BARTLEY,
IT WAS VOTED, WITH EXPRESSIONS OF DEEP APPRECIATION
FOR THE SERVICES SHE HAS RENDERED AND SINCERE REGRET
THAT SHE FINDS IT ADVISABLE TO REQUEST RETIREMENT,
TO GRANT THE URGENT REQUEST OF MRS. MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE
FOR RETIREMENT FROM THE PRESIDENCY OF BETHUNE-COOKMAN
COLLEGE.

The Chairman appointed the following to serve as a Publicity Committee from this Board, to release details of Mrs. Bethune's retirement to the public:

Dr. Davage, Dr. Bartley, Mr. Lewis, Attorney Cobb, Mrs. Meigs.

The Chairman then called attention to the recommendation of Mrs. Bethune that Mr. James A. Colston be elected to succeed her in the position of president of Bethune-Cookman College.

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At this point, Mr. Maxwell W. Saxon, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Alumni Association, was given permission to speak to the Board.

Mr. Saxon:

"A few days ago Dr. Bethune made known to us her intentions and although it came as a shock, we understood and accepted her decision. We called a meeting of the General Alumni Executive Committee, representing 2000 alumni and former graduates of Bethune-Cookman College and this executive committee has made recommendations in a written statement, which we request the Chairman to have read at this time."

The Chairman stated that if the Alumni Association statement endorses the particular candidate being considered, it is in order to read the statement; if it endorses another candidate, then the matter should be presented to the Board in the form of a nomination.

Mrs. Butts, Chairman of the Advisory Board made the statement - "No one would care to accept any recommendation or nomination other than that of Mrs. Bethune."

Mr. Saxon stated that the Alumni Association endorses the candidate now being considered, and the Secretary was directed to read that portion of the Alumni statement referring to this statement. This portion of the statement follows:

To the Trustee Board of Bethune-Cookman College,
Daytona Beach, Florida.

"Dear Friends:

We, the members of the Executive Committee of the Alumni Association of Bethune-Cookman College regret exceedingly to relinquish the fine leadership of President Bethune. In a recent meeting she thoroughly convinced us that her physical condition definitely limits her activities. For this reason we understandingly accept her decision for retirement. Therefore, we wish to make the following recommendations:

WHEREAS the Executive Committee of the Alumni Association recognizes the dilemma that the College is now in and the necessity for planning the future destiny of the College in keeping with the trends of the times, and

WHEREAS we have studied the qualifications and experiences of the prospective candidates for the Presidency, we do hereby, because of his fine educational background, broad administrative experience, fine character, creative ability and integrity, youthful personality and promising possibilities, recommend James A. Colston, now President of Ballard Normal School, Macon, Georgia, for the presidency of Bethune-Cookman College, with all administrative powers appertaining thereto."

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Following the reading of the first part of the Alumni statement, Mrs. Meigs spoke to the Board.

Mrs. Meigs:

"The selection of a College President is something not to be done in a moment. I appreciate the fact that Mrs. Bethune's state of health makes her feel that immediately something radical or drastic must be undertaken. I am not questioning her regard and respect for the candidate and I feel very sympathetic to all that I have heard about him. I want to suggest that it is easier to name a President than to retire one. I don't quite agree with Mrs. Butts. What Mrs. Bethune needs above all is the feeling that this selection is on the Board of Trustees and from now on the only real release she will have will be that this Board is taking the lead and if we sit here and say that anything she recommends is all right, she will feel her responsibility for the man she has recommended. We are the people who will have the responsibility for that man from now on. I hope this is the right man but I do not think we have any right to jump into such a situation on a moment's notice."

Mr. Rogers:

"I do not think that I have ever had such a feeling as I have at this time. Frankly, I am very much disconcerted about what we should do and I think I owe it to myself as a trustee to make an expression here. Mrs. Meigs has said something that grips me - 'it is one thing to elect a President and another thing to retire him.' What would be the attitude of this Institution and faculty - what is going to be the general attitude of the machine that we now have for a new man to come in as President? Will it give us more headaches? I don't know how well this phase of the work is being ironed out. I know that some other man's name was in the picture. I must confess that I am worried, and I am wondering if it is not possible to use what we have here in the way of an administrative machine, and give ourselves some time to think out this thing. I do not know that it is pertinent or wise to elect a president on such short notice. I had not made up my mind on the first man considered and I cannot make up my mind so quickly on another. Fifty-eight years' experience has taught me some lessons on changes. Ought such an important and vital change be made in a minute? I, personally, would rather have it remain status quo, with what we have, and give ourselves time to think."

Dr. H. E. Bartley:

"Mr. Chairman, I do not wish to take up a lot of time. Mrs. Lettune talked with me a few days ago, about her physical condition and also about the trends in education. She stated that the school must become more self-supporting. I have known the candidate recommended by Mrs. Bethune for many years and I do not believe that this particular man can produce what we need now. With philanthropy drying up, as Mrs. Bethune pointed out to me, I question whether that young man could do the job. He is conscientious and capable, but whether he could fit into this situation, I do not know. To have him make it, or not make it, would be unkind to the Institution and unkind to the man. I am not in favor of rushing to a conclusion. We cannot realize what we are doing."

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Dr. Adams:

"I have studied this situation. As to Mrs. Bethune's physical condition, I suggested that she must stop and stop now, and upon my suggestion and that of her other physicians who attended her, she has consented to relieve herself of the burden of the school's administration. I believe the school will be as much on her heart, if we do not elect a president today. I think it will be a wise thing to end this discussion and work with Mrs. Bethune and with the man she has recommended. We may not find a better man for a long time, and she has given her life for this work she must have relief now."

Mrs. Bethune:

"May I say, concerning the two candidates whose names have been before you, that this is not something done on a moment's thought or consideration. This has been done over a period of years. If I were not convinced of the facts I could never have asked for this emergency meeting. I could exhaust all of the knowledge and influence I have to find any weak or strong places. The administrative personnel we now have does not provide for the presidency of the Institution. I know what must be done now - I know the present trends in education. We must act now. If we wait ten years, the school will never recover. Our present personnel cannot meet these needs of today. We have a fine Academic Dean but he cannot serve as President of the College."

The Chairman expressed his appreciation for the full value of Mrs. Meigs' statement, and for the statements of the other members of the Board. He suggested, however, that this Board not press Mrs. Bethune to express any more details of the situation, lest it affect the morale of this meeting. He corroborated Mrs. Bethune's statement that this is not a matter of immediate choice but a matter that has been canvassed for several years. For the information of the Board he asked for the statement of Mr. Colston's qualifications. The statement is as follows:

James Allen Colston - Born July 27, 1909 in Quincy, Florida.
Grammar School education completed in Winter Park and Orlando, Florida. Both high school and college work done at Morehouse College, where he graduated as an honor student with the degree of Bachelor of Science, in 1932. From Morehouse he went to the Atlanta University Graduate School of Education and graduated with the degree of Master of Arts in one year. During the time he attended graduate school at Atlanta University he taught in the E.P. Johnson Evening School. Since graduation from Atlanta University he has attended Teachers' College, Columbus University, for three summers. He was accepted as a student eligible to matriculate for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy or Doctor of Education.

For five years he served as Principal of the Rigby High School in Ormond, Florida. From the high school in Ormond, he came to Macon to become Director of Ballard School, an American Missionary School. He is in the midst of his fifth year of service at this school. Inasmuch as he has had the responsibility of both the educational and business end of the school in Macon, he has had experience in administering a school educationally and raising money to finance it.

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During the past two summer sessions he has served on the faculty of Atlanta University as a consultant in the curriculum workshop sponsored by Atlanta University and the State Department of Education in Georgia. He served as Director of the Hampton Institute Summer School held in Jacksonville, Florida in the summer of 1941. The summer school was conducted in the form of a workshop on Modern Problems of Elementary and Secondary School Education. The staff consisted of 21 members, and the student enrollment was 202.

During his stay in Florida, Mr. Colston served as President of the Orange Belt District Teachers' Association. In Georgia, he is now President of the Macon District Teachers' Association. The active enrollment of the Georgia Association is 650 teachers. In Florida, he was Vice-President of the State Teachers' Association. He is now Program Director for the High School Division of the Georgia Teachers and Educational Association. For three years he served on the Curriculum Committee for Florida High Schools. For the past four years, he has been a member of the Georgia Curriculum Improvement Committee and a member of the State Advisory Council on Teacher Education. He is chairman of the Planning Committee for Georgia Principals.

In Macon, Mr. Colston is chairman of the Macon Defense Recreation Committee; District Chairman of the Central Georgia Council of Boy Scouts of America; Secretary of the Civilian Defense Committee; a member of the Interracial Committee for Central Georgia.

Following the reading of the qualifications of Mr. Colston, Mrs. Bethune stated that Mr. Colston had come to Bethune-Cookman at her request, to discuss the possibility of accepting the Presidency here. He had gone thoroughly over the physical plant and made full investigation into the business of the school. After his visit, he had written the following communication to be presented to the Board:

President Mary McLeod Bethune and
the Board of Trustees of
Bethune-Cookman College
Daytona Beach, Florida.

"Dear Friends:

In view of the changing status of the private college in the scheme of American education, and its inability to secure support from philanthropic agencies as in the past, the private college must in a measure adapt its program to unique practices in Education - based definitely upon the need of the people and the challenge of the time to justify its continued support and existence.

A college such as Bethune-Cookman might well implement its regular program of teacher-education by strengthening it in its present or related form and projecting itself more thoroughly into the life of the community by working with the people in developing a program for their growth. The school might well center its efforts

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on the building of a "life-centered school," stressing such factors as improved, healthful living, vocational preparation, greater vocational opportunities and improved living through cooperative efforts and its several implications. As a school projects itself into the community and improves the life of the people, greater support and cooperation are likely to eventuate. A program of education designed to meet the needs of the people and improve their living will encourage financial support of agencies interested in implementing educational programs of worth.

Bethune-Cookman College offers a challenge to the ability and ingenuity of an able, tireless leader, with a vision of what good education ought be, and the part the school can play in developing it for those who come within its reach. The type of program suggested would require the backing of the Board of Trustees, and possibly increased support from the Board of Education. Although financially the program of a life-centered school is no more ambitious than that of a strictly liberal arts program, the person who undertakes the leadership of the school ought have the backing of the Trustees and the Board of Education for financial support over and above the amount that can be raised by the school, after its total resources have been developed.

To effectively carry out a program for the development of Bethune-Cookman College, the President should have a free hand to direct the activities of the school, to organize the program, to select the personnel to carry it out and provide such growth measures as will stimulate the activity of the student body and staff in using their total powers to contribute effectively to the program. A slogan that would be To develop a Life-Centered School, to meet total needs, through the use of total resources, with adequate support to do it - if the Board of Trustees and the Board of Education are willing -

First, to cooperate in improving the school program as suggested,

Second, be open to opportunities for aid from the State or other Foundations,

Third, will come to the school's rescue in difficult times,

Fourth, give the president free hand in the organization and administration of the school. That the president be president in fact, not just in name. This does not mean that the advice and help of persons capable of giving it would not be welcome. It just means that someone should have final authority and the president is the person in whom such authority should be vested.

If the Trustees and the Board of Education see fit to look favorably upon the facts given, and if I should be selected as their choice for president, and I can secure proper release from my work in Macon, I shall be glad to accept the presidency of Bethune-Cookman College."

Cordially yours,

(signed) James A. Colston.

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Dr. Davage stated to the Board that, after reading Mr. Colston's communication, he had inquired into his meaning of a "life-centered school." He stated that he had indicated to him that Institution's policy-making was vested in the Board of Trustees. Mr. Colston had interpreted the term "life-centered school" as meaning that an Institution must project itself into the lives of its students and its community, as challenging objectives, to insure its growth and effectiveness. Vocational guidance, so much needed by our young people, would form a vital part of the school's program. Curricula and activities that would serve those ends, would be formulated. Dr. Davage stated further that Mr. George W. Marks, Volusia County Superintendent of Public Instruction, had given his unqualified endorsement of Mr. Colston's ability as an educator and commended particularly his ability to work with groups. Dr. Davage stated that, in his opinion, it is indicated that Mr. Colston has a definite, sound educational philosophy, well-related to modern trends and needs of today.

The Chairman stated, for the information of the Board, that Mr. Garrett Wiggins, whose name had been suggested as a successor to Mrs. Bethune, in the Call to the Trustees, could not be secured. When it was found that he could not consider the position, investigation of Mr. Colston's qualifications had been made.

Following these discussions and statements,

ON MOTION, IT WAS VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, BY STANDING VOTE
OF ALL MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES PRESENT AT
THIS MEETING, TO APPROVE MRS. BETHUNE'S RECOMMENDATION
AND TO ELECT MR. JAMES A. COLSTON AS HER SUCCESSOR IN
THE POSITION OF PRESIDENT OF BETHUNE-COOKMAN COLLEGE.

At this time Mr. Colston was called into the meeting.

Mrs. Bethune:

"Bishop King, members of the Trustee Board, I am very happy at this time to do this very sacred thing. You have been so gracious to permit me to retire as administrative officer of Bethune-Cookman College. You have given such a marvellous vote of confidence to me in accepting the recommendation of my soul, for the best man I could find to come here to take my place. This has not been an easy task - it took prayer and fortitude. I prayed God that if James Colston was not the right person, not to permit the Board to accept him - not to permit him to want to come. We have the unanimous vote of your Board - you have elected to the Presidency of Bethune-Cookman College a young man just thirty-three years of age. I now place upon him the sacred mantle I have worn for thirty-eight years.

As you take this responsibility, Mr. Colston, with God's help and the backing of this Board and the fine people of America who know you and admire you and trust you, I ask you to keep your hand in God's hand, keep your feet on.

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the ground, keep the common touch and build for tomorrow. God bless you. You have my guidance, my prayers, my influence, and my help, as you undertake this task."

Bishop King:

"Mr. Colston, Mrs. Bethune has told us of the tender ties between you and this Institution, of your being married from her home, of your ability and efficiency. You have been elected to the Presidency of Bethune-Cookman College by the unanimous vote of this Board and we pray God blessings upon you. Your failures will be our failures, your successes our successes."

Mr. Colston:

"Mrs. Bethune, Bishop King, Members of the Trustee Board - I do not know exactly what to say, but I do know and say this - that it will always be my purpose to follow the vision and to carry out the things that have been in the minds of Mrs. Bethune and this Board for all of these years. I know that I have your help. I know that there are great possibilities for this Institution. I know that I have the determination, with your cooperation and help, to make here a monument, built upon the foundations of true education and Christian living, that have always characterized Bethune-Cookman. You may be assured that I feel the definite responsibility placed upon me. Through our efforts we are going to strive to better the lives of the young people we touch. The philosophy of education that we feel for an educational institution is that it can justify its existence by the type of lives that we build, because education must be the development of people and their lives, their objectives, their horizons.

I wish to thank you for the responsibility you have placed upon me. It will always be mine to hold high the standards of Bethune-Cookman College and all of its interested friends by building a sound educational program that will actually enable people who come in contact with us to be better leaders, and so have evidences of growth all about us.

I thank you as I accept, with the greatest of pleasure, the Presidency of Bethune-Cookman College, and with God as our ever-present Guide, we shall march on to higher goals."

At this time, it was stated that it is fitting to elect the President-Emeritus and the Chairman requested the second portion of the Alumni statement to be read. This portion of the statement follows:

"AND WHEREAS President Bethune has developed a plant of financial, intellectual and cultural worth to the commonwealth and the Nation in general and Florida in particular, and has given without stint of her interest, vigor and untiring efforts in the development of this plant, and due to her failing health she is relinquishing her status as administrator of the College,

WE DO RECOMMEND that she become President-Emeritus of Bethune-Cookman

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College, with all of the powers appertaining thereto. We further recommend that for her general welfare and the security of her future, she be given a minimum salary of \$3,000 annually, with freedom of her time and talent, until death.

WE FURTHER RECOMMEND that if and when a new President is elected that there should be formed a Planning Board, with representatives from the Trustee and Advisory Boards and the Alumni Association, together with the President and President-Emeritus. The purpose of this Committee will be to make plans for the future of Bethune-Cookman College, in maintaining stability."

Respectfully submitted,

THE GENERAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF
BETHUNE-COOKMAN COLLEGE,

(signed) Maxwell W. Saxon, Chair. Ex. Comm.
(signed) Charlotte L. Ford, Corres. Secretary

Attorney Perkins:

"Mr. Chairman, Members of the Board, today is a day filled with sadness and happiness, because the future of this Institution is before us here. Mrs. Bethune's name is on the Roll of Immortals. It seems to me that we could not do ourselves a greater honor than to elect Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune President-Emeritus of Bethune-Cookman College and I so move that she be elected to this position for the term of her life."

ON ATTORNEY PERKINS' MOTION, SECONDED BY DR. GRAHAM,
IT WAS VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ELECT MRS. MARY MCLEOD
BETHUNE TO THE POSITION OF PRESIDENT-EMERITUS OF
BETHUNE-COOKMAN COLLEGE, FOR THE TERM OF HER LIFE.

The Chairman requested Mr. Saxon to convey to the General Alumni Association the appreciation of the Board for their recommendations and support at this time.

There was a discussion concerning that portion of the Alumni statement referring to the salary of the President-Emeritus. Attorney Cobb stated that the Call for this special meeting stated the purpose to be - Action upon the retirement of Mrs. Bethune, and action upon her recommendation of a successor as President, and no other business is in order at this time.

The Chairman asked the Board to be thinking of this phase of business for consideration in the Annual meeting of the Board of Trustees.

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It was requested by Dr. Davago that the trustees also be thinking of having the proper acknowledgment given to the retirement of Mrs. Bethune, and the election of Mr. Colston as President, possibly having the inauguration of the New President and a testimonial for the retiring President, with representatives of the Conferences and general public present.

ON MOTION, it was voted to have the administration of the College, pending the arrival of the new President, directed by the Executive Committee and the President-Emeritus.

ON MOTION, it was voted to have the inauguration of the new President at the time of the Annual meeting of the Board of Trustees in March, 1943, in order that three things may be done at this time:

- 1- The Annual Meeting of the Board
- 2- The inauguration of the new President
- 3- A fitting testimonial for the retiring President

The following Committee was appointed to make plans for the Inauguration Testimonial:

Bishop King, Chairman of the Board
The Executive Committee of the Trustee Board
Dr. M.S. Davago

BENEDICTION - - - - - Rev. H.W. Bartley

ADJOURNMENT.

Bertha L. Mitchell,
Secretary of the Trustee Board.

March 3, 1943. 100

Dear Mrs. Bethune;

I have your note enclosing
a letter from Mr. Jules Blados asking
for a command performance of his
song. As the President has not ex-
tended like recognition to other authors
and composers, he could not make an ex-
ception in the case of "Ode to America."

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Mary McL. Bethune
War Manpower Commission
National Youth Administration
Washington, D. C.

VDS

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 2, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR MISS THOMSON:

Dear Melvin:

This request from Jules Bledsoe, forwarded to Mrs. Roosevelt through Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Director of Negro Affairs, National Youth Administration, is simply a request for a "plug" for a song he has written entitled "Ode to America". The request of this Mr. Bledsoe is, specifically, that the President would "command" a broadcast of Bledsoe's song by radio. Many authors of songs and other works have attempted to use the President for advertising and promotion purposes but this request for a "command broadcast" goes beyond everything else.

I think it would be sufficient to tell Mrs. Bethune that as the President has not extended like recognition to other authors and composers he could not make an exception in the case of "Ode to America".

K VONE
3/3/43
S.T.S.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 1, 1943

Mr. Early:

Mrs. Roosevelt would appreciate your advice on the suggestion made by Jules Bledsoe in his letter attached, addressed to Mrs. Bethune.

M.C.T.

WAR MANPOWER COMMISSION
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION

February 24, 1943

Ans
3/3/43

Mrs. Malvina Thompson
Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Thompson:

Will you please read the enclosed
letter from Mr. Jules Bledsoe and see if there
is anything Mrs. Roosevelt can do for him.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune
Director of Negro Affairs



6642 EMMET TERRACE
HOLLYWOOD, CALIF.

Oct. 17, 1943

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
Director Of Negro Affairs
National Youth Administration
2145 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.



My dear Mrs. Betnune:

The 'A Cappella Choir of the Junior City

College of Los Angeles under the direction of Dr. Ralph Peterson, one of the greatest such singing organisations in the country, is rehearsing the "Ode To America" to be sung for Our Boys Overseas over short wave radio, which activity falls under the head of The Special Service Division of The War Department here in Hollywood. We rehearsed today and I was so touched by the great performance this group of young people gave today, this together with the fact that the song is dedicated to our dear Commander in Chief, The President and Mrs. Roosevelt, that I hoped that something more than just another broadcast to the Boys can be made of it. It has been suggested by some of the officials of the above mentioned branch of the War Department that this work be given on The Command Performance Broadcast and what a wonderful thing it would be if our own Commander in Chief would command a performance of his own song, The "Ode To America" to be performed on The Command Performance Broadcast.

I personally and the director and members of the City College Choir would like to have the broadcast released for home consumption, either simultaneously or afterward, whatever could be advantageously arranged.

16642 EMMET TERRACE
HOLLYWOOD, CALIF.

S. Eledoe to Bethune

The "Ode" improves with age. I am so proud of the fact that I wrote it prior to the War, and that it so perfectly fits our innermost sentiments today. I am also proud of the fact that you were directly responsible for the splendid hearing given it upon the occasion of it's premier performance and that we had the extreme honour of having The First Lady with us and for the very beautiful words she spoke in our behalf. Since then I have sung the "Ode" with Choirs from one end of the country to the other, but my health has kept me from doing very much about it until just recently. But now I want this Anthem to be in the heart of every American, and I am enclosing a copy of the text again for you to reacquaint yourself with this Prayer in verse that is so applicable today and that speaks the desire of every heart in America.

And now, my dear friend, I know that you will do your best to bring this humble request to speedy realisation; as many of the young men of this Choir are leaving for the Colors every day and they wish to sing "The Ode" before going.

Again my thanks and a wish for your continued health and that you will not be disturbed in your great work is my prayer.

Ever faithfully yours

S. Eledoe

ODE TO AMERICA

Respectfully Dedicated
to the President of the United States, Franklin Delano Roosevelt

O, thou land by God inspired
Land of freedom's holy light
Patriots' blood thy soil has sired
May God keep thee in His sight.

Matchless streams and forests, too
Hills and valleys thee embrace
Nature's marvels all in view
Held by oceans in thy place.

See the millions tramping
Tramping toward the light
In fine fields encamping
Tramping day and night.

Marching ever onward
Marching ever on
Marching ever homeward
Marching with a song.

Guide the hand that leads this land
Keep him well and safe from harm
Following ever God's command
Show him how to ride the storm.

Show him how to keep us strong
Keep our purpose right and brave
And when troubles come along
Quick to danger, quick to save.

When the tyrants threaten
When the clouds appear
Please our courage sweeten
Be Thou always near.

Marching ever onward
Marching ever on
Marching ever homeward
Marching with a song.

O, thou land by God inspired
Land of freedom's holy light
Patriots' blood thy soil has sired
May God keep thee in His sight.

AMEN

By Jules Bledsoe

100
March 4, 1943

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

I understand from our telephone conversation that you would like certain names which were included on your list for the White House meeting invited to Mrs. Roosevelt's New York apartment on March sixteenth at four o'clock. Mrs. Roosevelt says that they can accommodate about twelve persons there and to invite sixteen or eighteen, allowing for regrets. On the list you sent to me I have added as far as I know the names of husbands or wives which are missing on this list for the White House meeting. I am giving you a revised copy of the White House list and those I checked with you for the New York meeting.

Mrs. Roosevelt will be very glad to have the negro quartet sing for the guests after the meeting at the White House on March twelfth. I understand that you will send me immediately their names and addresses.

For our information, I understand that the meeting at the Asbury Methodist Church on Monday, March eighth, will be at eight-fifteen.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. J. M. Helm
Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
National Youth Administration
2145 C Street
Washington, D. C.

Miss Dow - telephone

Bethune - Mrs. R. can't go until April as she has no free Sunday. The 11th of April might be possible but I wouldn't want to promise now.

Please send list for both meetings to Mrs. Helm at W.H.

Mrs. R. glad to have people she mentions on the 12th.

Ask Mrs. Helm to ask Pearl Buck to dine at W.H. and go to meeting with her. Set dinner at hour which will permit time enough to go to meeting. Ask Mrs. Bethune hour

Report 83

March 10, 1943

My dear Mrs. Cromwell:

Mrs. Roosevelt hopes that it will be possible for you to come to a meeting at her apartment in New York, 29 Washington Square West, on Tuesday afternoon, March sixteenth, at four o'clock, which she is holding at the request of Mrs. Bethune in the interest of Bethune-Cookman College.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. J. M. Helm
Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt

Mrs. Doris Duke Cromwell
535 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

er

*Same form used for
all those invited to
New York meeting.*

Phoned
3-1-43

File

100
BETHUNE

Mrs Bechtone wants you
to see Mr Ely. He is
in Oxford group & wants
to talk to you. Mrs Bechtone
says you know him

Could be write -

~~Mrs BWT~~

Telephone

Mrs

that

too

could not

Mrs R

Mrs Ely

to write

75A

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 15, 1943

pl

MEMORANDUM FOR MISS THOMPSON:

Practically all these regrets came in this morning. I telephoned Mrs. Bethune about this and she gave me three additional names to whom we have sent notes.

Edith Helm

*Judge Delany
Dr. and Mrs. Jones
Dr. Nurse*

NEW YORK MEETING
Tuesday afternoon, March 16, 1943
at four o'clock.

*None of these have been
heard from —*

Mr. & Mrs. Julius Ochs Adler
Mrs. George F. Baker
Mrs. Doris Duke Cromwell
Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Field
Judge Hubert Delany
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Jesse Jones
Mrs. Alice T. McLean (and anyone she wishes to bring)
Mr. Thomas Morgan
Mrs. Henry Pfeiffer
Judge Justine W. Polier (and anyone she wishes to bring)
Dr. I. Godfrey Nurse
Mrs. Ingrid Warburg Spinnelli

RECRETS

Mr. & Mrs. Winthrop W. Aldrich
Mrs. August Belmont
Dr. George A. Buttrick
Mr. & Mrs. Edward C. Carter
Mr. & Mrs. Cleveland E. Dodge
Ensign & Mrs. Marshall Field, III
Mr. & Mrs. A. D. Lasker
Mrs. Anna M. Rosenberg
Mr. & Mrs. David Sarnoff
Mr. & Mrs. Harper Sibley

*Asks to know how things came out at Mrs. Bethune's meeting., etc.

March 17, 1943.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mrs. Roosevelt has asked me
to send you the enclosed letter from
Mr. H. L. Benedum, of Pittsburgh, Penn-
sylvania.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

Mrs. Mary McL. Bethune
National Youth Administration
War Manpower Commission
Washington, D. C.

VLS

FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION
2145 C STREET NW., WASHINGTON, D. C.

March 18, 1943

Mrs. Malvina Thompson
Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Miss Thompson:

It will be gratifying to you to know that our two meetings here in Washington and the one in New York have, in my mind, been most inspiring and successful. I do want to express my deep appreciation to you for your help and patience in helping me to work this program out. Mrs. Roosevelt has been so magnanimous. I do not like big words, but this is the only one that will fit just what I want to say here.

The meeting at the Asbury Church here in Washington netted us \$2600. The one at the White House brought from Secretary and Mrs. Jesse Jones -- \$1000; Mr. M. L. Benedum -- \$1000; Mrs. Alice T. McLean -- \$1000; Senator Joseph Guffey -- \$250; Mrs. Francis Biddle -- \$250; Mrs. Bancroft Davis -- \$500; Mr. and Mrs. Phillip M. Brown -- \$50; Commissioner David E. Kinley -- \$10. The others said they would send in. That was magnificent. I can never tell you what it meant.

Our meeting in New York at Mrs. Roosevelt's home was, in my mind, far more valuable than a \$10,000 cash meeting. Some very definite, concrete suggestions were made and I saw signs of a permanency in our efforts that gave great encouragement. Mrs. Roosevelt on her part in these meetings is sowing seeds more deeply than she can now imagine. I want to suggest to you to suggest to her to have the invitations that she sends out from her home, even though I may have to help to furnish the people who we think should be invited, sent out at her request and not mine. I think coming from her does something that no request of mine can do. We felt that in these last two meetings.

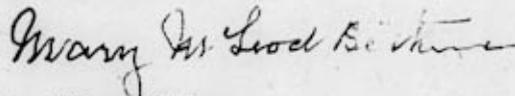
On March 29, Mrs. Roosevelt will appear at a benefit for Bethune - Cookman College, honoring thirty-eight years of service as President of Mary McLeod Bethune, at the People's Church of Christ and Metropolitan Community Center, 4100 South Parkway, Chicago, Illinois at 8:15 P. M. If she can remain a short while at the close of the service, just to greet a few people, it will be appreciated. I shall not make any other requests of her for that evening. I should like

to know where she will be stopping and the time of her arrival so I can contact her. It will be my plan to arrive in Chicago early on the morning of the twenty-ninth. I am going to Indianapolis and other places and do some things for the NYA. The program for that evening will be similar to the one we had at the Asbury Church. Mrs. Roosevelt will be the main speaker.

On April 11, we are having a meeting at the Salem Methodist Church in Harlem, 2190 Seventh Avenue, New York City (Mrs. Roosevelt will use the Seventh Avenue Parsonage entrance). The telephone number there is Monument 2-9121. The pastor's name is Dr. Charles Young Trigg. Mrs. Roosevelt will be the main speaker. The program will be similar to the other Church programs. It, too, will be a benefit for Bethune - Cookman College honoring thirty-eight years of service as President of Mary McLeod Bethune.

Mrs. Thompson, if there is any other information that you would like to have, please inform me. I will prepare the letter for Mrs. Roosevelt to send to Mr. Ambree within the next day.

Sincerely yours,



Mary McLeod Bethune
Director of Negro Affairs

P. S. Ask Mrs. Roosevelt not to forget to speak to Mr. Landis of the Office of Civilian Defense, concerning William Alexander. I spoke to her about it. I think Mr. Landis will be glad to take him in, if Mrs. Roosevelt suggests it.

MMB

100
March 26, 1943

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mrs. Roosevelt asked me, before she left on a trip to the West, to acknowledge your letter of March 20th for her.

Mrs. Roosevelt asked me to express her appreciation of the invitation you extended to her from the Ministers' Wives of Manhattan to attend their Bond Rally in April, but to say that she has as many engagements as she will be able to keep during the remainder of the spring and that she must therefore decline this invitation.

Very sincerely yours,

Administrative Officer
Social Correspondence

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
National Youth Administration
2145 C Street N.W.
Washington, D.C.

mk
3-2-43

FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION
2145 C STREET NW., WASHINGTON, D. C.

March 20, 1943

MAR 22 1943
1943
11:00 AM
100-100000-100000

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

The Ministers' Wives of Manhattan are sponsoring a Two Million Dollars War Bond Rally in cooperation with the Thirteen Billion Dollars War Bond Campaign launched by the United States Treasury during the month of April.

They are anxious to have you as their guest speaker at a meeting on such a date as will suit you after Easter. The Pastors of the Churches whose wives compose this Auxiliary are pledging their unanimous support in this gigantic effort.

Your presence, Mrs. Roosevelt, will be not only a great inspiration, but will be used to dramatize the importance of every colored citizen investing to the limit in Treasury securities during this campaign.

I shall deeply appreciate any effort on your part to accept this invitation. Please let me know if you can do this and the date you can do it, so that I can transfer this information to them. Know how grateful we are for all that you are doing.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune

Mary McLeod Bethune
Director of Negro Affairs

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 28, 1943

Miss Thompson:

I called Mrs. Bethune about the Harlem meeting and they said that Sunday afternoon, May 2, was satisfactory. Should we put it down as a definite date?

DD

Yes - how?

This is to be at 4:00 p.m. at the Golden Gate Ballroom - Lenox Avenue and 140th Street.

*OK
file*

*Doubts if grant can be given for Bethune-Cookman School as Mrs. B. no longer actively connected. Thinks gift by the fund to National Council of Colored Women in which she is now interested might be more helpful etc.

April 12, 1943.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mrs. Roosevelt has asked me to send you the enclosed letter from Mr. Embree. She would like to have your opinion of his suggestion and will appreciate the return of the enclosed letter with your reply.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

Mrs. Mary McL. Bethune
War Manpower Commission
National Youth Administration
Washington, D. C.

VUS

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, INC.

(Affiliated with The National Council of Women of the United States, Inc.)

1812 Ninth Street, N. W.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Telephone: DUPONT 2483

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
Founder and President

Miss Dorothy I. Height
Executive Secretary

First Vice-President

Mrs. Vivian Carter Mason

Second Vice-President

Mrs. Estelle Massey Riddle

Third Vice-President

Atty. Edith Sampson

Fourth Vice-President

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Miss Norma Boyd

Resolutions and Findings

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Radio

Atty. Ruth Whitehead Whaley

Editor-in-Chief of the Journal

Mrs. Sue Bailey Thurman

Associate Editor

Miss Jeanetta Welsh

April 14, 1943

Miss Malvina Thompson
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Miss Thompson:

Mr. Embree's letter puts me in a very ticklish place. I think he has asked this pointed question because of a request we made of him for the carrying on of the work of the Council since we know of some things they are doing in that field. I would answer him in this manner:

"I really think that the influence of Mrs. Bethune has been so deeply planted at Bethune-Cookman College and the practical ideas she has set in motion there will continue. She is, however, possessed with a magnetism for group leadership that must make the National Council of Negro Women an outstanding unit for real service in this country. In my own mind I had made no comparison at all between the usefulness of Mrs. Bethune to the National Council of Negro Women and the service she has rendered to the institution. It is true that for the past ten years or more Mrs. Bethune's activities have reached beyond the mere borders of a single college. I feel, however, that the importance of the continuation of her work at Bethune-Cookman. I shall be glad to discuss it with you when I see you."

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune

mmb/d
Enclosure

OFFICIAL ORGAN: "THE AFRICAN WOMAN'S JOURNAL"
(A Quarterly Review)

Edwin R. Embree
President

Dorothy A. Elridge
Secretary and Comptroller

Julius Rosenwald Fund

4901 Ellis Avenue
CHICAGO

Will W. Alexander
Charles S. Johnson
Directors for Race Relations

Fred G. Wale
Director for Rural Education

William C. Haygood
Director for Fellowships

Handwritten: Mrs. Roosevelt

March 30, 1943

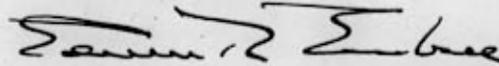
Dear Mrs. Roosevelt: I shall certainly see that the application from Bethune-Cookman College is included in the docket of business to be considered at the next meeting of our trustees. I still have grave reservations. Granting the magnificent leadership of Mrs. Bethune, it seems to me that there is little guarantee of distinguished work continuing now that she has retired.

Since what I think we all have in mind is to help Mrs. Bethune accomplish the work she can so splendidly do, what would you think of a gift by the Fund, not to her former college but to her present chief connection, the National Council of Colored Women? Mrs. Bethune is in a position to influence much more than one single little college. Through the National Council, and her own leadership, she should influence education and thinking and acting throughout the nation.

At any rate we will have opportunity for full discussion at the Board meeting. It is a great satisfaction to have such direct interest taken by individual trustees.

Very truly yours,

ERE:YY



Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Chicago, Ill.
April 17, 1946

100

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mr. Eabree told me that he had a conversation with you a few days ago, and explained the position of the Fund, and their policy, as regards rural schools.

I gathered that you might be given some money for your Negro Women's Council which will be a help in the work done on race relations, and I hope this is so.

I shall look forward to seeing you at the Harlem meeting.

Very sincerely yours,

WAR MANPOWER COMMISSION
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION

2115 C Street, Northwest
Washington, D. C.

April 23, 1943

APR 24 1943

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I have just had a talk with Dr. Arthur Wright of the Southern Foundation and he suggested that I ask you to send him a little note stating that as a Trustee of Bethune Cookman College, you would appreciate a contribution from the Board, if possible, to the work at Bethune Cookman College.

My retiring as President and the taking on of a new President make it vitally important that we give all the stimulation, encouragement and help possible to the college now, to secure its needs and keep up its morale.

Dr. Wright thinks that if you send him a little note like that, it will stimulate him and help him to get over his suggestion which he will make to the board.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune
Director of Negro Affairs



WAR MANPOWER COMMISSION
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION
215 C Street, Northwest
Washington, D. C.

April 23, 1943

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I have just had a talk with Dr. Arthur Wright of the Southern Foundation and he suggested that I ask you to send him a little note stating that as a Trustee of Bethune Cookman College, you would appreciate a contribution from the Board, if possible, to the work at Bethune Cookman College.

By retiring as President and the taking on of a new President make it vitally important that we give all the stimulation, encouragement and help possible to the college now, to secure its needs and keep up its morale.

Dr. Wright thinks that if you send him a little note like that, it will stimulate him and help him to get over his suggestion which he will make to the board.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune
Director of Negro Affairs



WAR MANPOWER COMMISSION
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION

2145 C Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

April 21, 1943

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I will never get through thanking you for the interest you are manifesting in me and my efforts, and your willingness to see through the reasoning of the things I am trying to do. You cannot understand the help that you are giving to the entire Negro group in this country and the encouragement to all minority groups in the interest you are manifesting in Bethune-Cookman College. Seeds are being sown that will reap a real harvest as the days go by.

I want to thank you for your intercession with Mr. Embree. I have worked hard with him and the Rosenwald Board. They have decided upon certain lines of work and fortunately the thing we are doing through the National Council of Negro Women is appealing to him and I am hoping he will, through the Board, help us extend this work in the broadening of our interracial developments and in opening up wider opportunities for united service for the Negro women of this country. I will talk with you more about the Council some day.

Our meeting in New York will be at the Golden Gate Auditorium, 143rd Street and Lenox Avenue, at 4 P. M. on May 2. Are you going to wear a long dress? Would you be willing to give an hour at the conclusion of our meeting to an informal meeting with some of the people at a place that is not now designated? I assure you it will not be anything that would be taxing or cause you any type of criticism. I am not interested in having you appear anywhere in Harlem before the 4 o'clock meeting. It may interest you to know that Roland Hayes will be with us. Bishop McConnell will preside at the meeting. It promises to be a very good meeting.

Our deficit at the College has been reduced from \$15,000 in January to \$2,300 to date because of our meetings. The gift Chicago wanted me to have found its way to Bethune-Cookman College early the next morning. Please let me know about what time you will arrive in New York. I will be there a few days ahead to get things lined up. I received a letter from Mrs. Cuck asking me to



*Mrs. [unclear]
guest
may 18th
may [unclear]
date*

come to New York on the 27th for a meeting with her. I will possibly do that and remain in New York until after the meeting.

May I ask what time you will have in Washington between the 12th and 17th of May that you could give to the formal opening of the new houses for the Negro women war workers. There is also the Lucy Slove Hall and the officials there want you to visit them for their formal opening. It may be well, if you can do it, for you to select a day between these dates and do them all in one day instead of making two or three trips. If you will let me know, I will speak with the people who are working with me on this and see what can be done with as little time as possible. It will be very encouraging to these women to have you as their guest for their formal opening.

Please let me know your telephone number in New York.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune

*NOT RECORDED
MAY 18 1945
[unclear]*

file

100

May 5, 1943

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
Bethune Cookman College
Daytona Beach, Florida

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

My wife and I were more than sorry that we were unable to attend your affair on Sunday May 2, 1943 because of illness.

We were more than glad to have contributed to your great work. We want to state further that as long as we are able we shall always contribute to your needs.

We realize what a great American you are.

Very truly yours,

X
M. S. ROSS, M.D.

MER:B

*Schieffelin states action was in harmony with Booker Washington's ideas of cooperation and of fighting against hatred. Says outcry seemed like 5th column effort. Is thankful they were able to stop it.

May 10, 1943. 100

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mrs. Roosevelt has asked me to send you the enclosed letter from X Dr. William Jay Schieffelin with the newspaper clipping which accompanied it.

) Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

Mrs. Mary McL. Bethune
National Youth Administration
War Manpower Commission
Washington, D. C.

VDS

WAR MANPOWER COMMISSION
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION
2145 C Street, Northwest
Washington, D. C.

May 21, 1943

Mrs. Malvina Thompson
Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Thompson:

Thanks very much for the letter you sent
me from Mr. William Jay Schieffelin. I am returning
it with the clippings.

It was kind of you to permit me to see it.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune
Director of Negro Affairs

enclosure



May 7th 1943

WILLIAM JAY SCHIEFFELIN
620 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

Our action was in
harmony with Booker Washington's
ideas of cooperation and of
fighting against hatred.

The outcry seemed like a
fifth Column effort: I am
thankful we were able to
stop it.

Sincerely yours

Wm Jay Schieffelin

TUSKEGEE ACTION DEFENDED

By JAMES EDMUND BOYACK
Special Correspondent

NEW YORK, May 6 — Dr. William Jay Schieffelin, chairman of the trustee board of Tuskegee institute, Alabama, declared here that acceptance of the grant of \$100,000 from the State of Alabama for post-graduate work in agriculture, home economics and rural education, favorably voted upon last Monday evening at a specially called board meeting "will greatly enhance Tuskegee's usefulness to Alabama, the South and the nation."

The 77-year-old veteran of Negro education who has guided Tuskegee's destinies for more than 40 years, again insisted that his board "reserved complete control over Tuskegee's destinies, and independence of action in all matters pertaining to the long established policies of the school."

PATTERSON DENIES SWAP

At Tuskegee institute, Dr. F. D. Patterson, president, said: "There have been conflicting and misleading statements in the daily and Negro newspapers of the country regarding Tuskegee institute and a proposed relationship to the State of Alabama. This statement is offered in clarification in order that our friends and well-wishers may have the facts."

"There is not now nor has there ever been considered plans whereby the State of Alabama would exercise administrative control over Tuskegee institute. The speech of Governor Sparks at Tuskegee institute on Founders Day, April 4, made reference to a matter that has been under consideration for several years. It is related to a

(Continued on Page 4, Col. 4)

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TUSKEGEE ACTION DEFENDED

(Continued from Page 1)

south-wide study of education available to both white and Negro youth and is part of a plan to develop regional institutions as a means of meeting the educational needs of the South and nation on a sound and practical basis.

NO TIME FOR HYSTERICIS

"There is no truth in the published reports that the governor has initiated a proposal to swap a \$100,000 annual appropriation for six trustees."

"This is not a time for the hysterical rejuvenation of the emotions of the Civil War. Private colleges for Negroes must realistically face a completely new day so far as support is concerned.

It sounds heroic to say that it is better that we maintain our freedom and let the buildings crumble to ashes in the dust beneath our feet. The fact is that there is a tremendous job of education to be done for the Negro youth of the South.

"We shall be wise to conserve what we have gained from the philanthropy of the past by carefully executed plans which provide the sort of public affiliation required for the sound growth which any educational institution must have to meet the challenge of a dynamic and constantly changing society. It will be tragic indeed if shortsightedness and suspicion prevent our promoting and profiting by this sensible and inevitable transition."

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Re: grant of State to Tuskegee.

May 17, 1943.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mrs. Roosevelt has asked me to send you the enclosed letter from Mr. Embree, to which is attached a copy of his letter to President Patterson of Tuskegee Institute. She thought you would be interested to see these.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

Mrs. Mary McL. Bethune
National Youth Administration
War Manpower Commission
Washington, D. C.

VDS

WAR MANPOWER COMMISSION
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION

2145 C Street, Northwest
Washington, D. C.

JH

May 20, 1943

Miss Malvina Thompson
Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Miss Thompson:

I want to thank you for sending me Mr. Ambree's letter. I really feel that he has put another interpretation upon this. There is great unrest among the entire Negro group because of this move. I shall think it through very carefully. The whole thing has disturbed me because of the feeling of the Negro people in regard to Dr. Patterson and his responsibility to Tuskegee.

Mrs. Roosevelt requested a Dr. Khetta to call you up for an appointment with her on Friday, May 21.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune
Director of Negro Affairs



110
May 25, 1943.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mrs. Roosevelt has a letter from
X Mrs. Ingrid Warburg-Spinelli, Progressive
Schools Committee for Refugee Children,
8 West 40th Street, New York City. Mrs.
Spinelli would like to have about fifty
folders on the work of Bethune-Cookman
College and Mrs. Roosevelt asks if you
would be good enough to send them to her
so she can give them to people interested.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

Mrs. Mary McL. Bethune
National Youth Administration
War Manpower Commission
Washington, D. C.

VDS

WAR MANPOWER COMMISSION
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION

2145 C Street, Northwest
Washington, D. C.

6/10/43

June 5, 1943

Miss Malvina Thompson
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Miss Thompson:

I have just returned to my desk from a strenuous trip through Texas, Louisiana, Georgia and Illinois. I am feeling very much better and I think I am growing stronger but must be careful. The literature you asked to be sent to Mrs. Warburg-Spinelli in New York has been sent.

I am writing now to ask, after consultation with Mrs. Roosevelt, if you will let me know any future services Mrs. Roosevelt's strength and time will permit for the very fine meetings we have been holding. In my mind they are very unusual and will build up a good will and cooperation that I do not think could come to us through any other source. Philadelphia, Detroit, Pittsburgh, Columbus and Boston are most desirous of planning meetings for us. I think, from many angles, they warrant our very serious consideration. If Mrs. Roosevelt can find it convenient and can set up any dates for me for these places, I will then contact Marian Anderson, Dorothy Maynor, Paul Robeson, Roland Hayes or any of our other artists who are anxious to cooperate with us to join Mrs. Roosevelt.

The Sunday afternoon hour, it seems to me, has proved the most appropriate time for the masses, yet any evening that Mrs. Roosevelt could give, her convenience would be met by the people.

I have also received a copy of a letter sent to Mrs. Roosevelt by Mr. Douglas G. Hertz. I would like to get her reaction to that.

As indicated in I hope all goes well at the White House.

Always gratefully yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune



Thank you for the literature

100
June 10, 1943.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mrs. Roosevelt advised Mr. Hertz to clear through the Transportation authorities which he has done. She is now asking General Osborn for his opinion. Mrs. Roosevelt could not take any responsibility for organizing such a plan.

I think Mrs. Roosevelt's plans for the summer preclude any more meetings such as you suggest but she will be glad to talk to you about having some in the fall.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

Mrs. Mary McL. Bethune
National Youth Administration
2145 C Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

VDS

WAR MANPOWER COMMISSION
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION

2145 C Street, Northwest
Washington, D. C.

JUN 22 1943

June 21, 1943

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

These are such difficult days. There are so many very trying problems for us all now. I would like, as soon as possible, to have just a short conference with you on a few things that seem to me to be very important.

I am thinking most sincerely now in terms of strength and guidance for our President. We must all understand that the wisdom we seek from above will not fail us. As soon as it is convenient for us to have a conference, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune
Director of Negro Affairs



100.

June 25, 1945

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

Will you give my greetings to the National Council of Negro Women on their We Serve America Week?

I congratulate them on their efforts and on their service to the country.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
1812 Ninth St. N.W.
Washington, D.C.

W

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OFFICERS OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, INC.
THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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The Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority
The Beauty Culturist League
The Women's Division of the I.B.P.O.E.W.
(Daughters of the International Order of Elks)
The Delta Sigma Theta Sorority
The Iota Phi Lambda Sorority
The National Association of Business and Professional Women
Woman's Home and Foreign Mission Society—The A. M. E. Church

The National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses
The National Democratic Women's Association
The Phi Delta Kappa Sorority
The Republican National Association of Women
The Sigma Gamma Eho Sorority
The Women's Parent Mite Missionary Society
The Zeta Phi Beta Sorority

The Lambda Kappa Mu Sorority
The Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society—A. M. E. Z. Church
The Women's Auxiliary—National Medical Association
The Women's Auxiliary—National Dental Association
The Matron's Guild (Wives of the Omega Psi Phi)
The Achievement Clubs

JUN 14 1943

"UNITY OF PURPOSE"

"UNITY OF ACTION"

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, INC.

(Affiliated with The National Council of Women of the United States, Inc.)

1812 NINTH STREET, N. W.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Telephone: DUPONT 2483

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
Founder and President

June 15, 1943

Jeanetta Welch
Executive Secretary

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

From July 4 through July 10 the National Council of Negro Women, through its affiliated and cooperating women's organizations throughout the country, will sponsor WE SERVE AMERICA week. The purpose of this national observance is as follows:

1. To point up the noteworthy contributions that Negro women have made and are making;
2. To launch a program for full integration of Negro women in all phases of our national life;
3. To focus attention on the role Negro women are playing in the war effort;
4. To make them further aware of their responsibilities as participants in our vast war program; and
5. To thereby stimulate the morale of Negro women workers.

We know of your keen interest in the welfare of womankind, and would appreciate receiving a word of greeting from you to the Negro women of America during our WE SERVE AMERICA observance.

Fraternally yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune
PRESIDENT

hmo

OFFICIAL ORGAN: "THE AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMAN'S JOURNAL"
(A Quarterly Review)

First Vice-President
Mrs. Vivian Carter Mason
Second Vice-President
Mrs. Estelle Massey Riddle
Third Vice-President
Atty. Edith Sampson
Fourth Vice-President
Mrs. Margaret Sims
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Mrs. Ethel Ramos Harris

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Mrs. Sue Bailey Thurman
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Registrar
Mrs. Harriet C. Hall
Auditor
Mrs. Harriett Shadd Dutcher
Historian
Mrs. Mary Church Terrell

*can you
help with the
Mr. M.B.*

Telephone North 3000

LICHTMAN THEATRES

WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 26th
1943



Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
National Youth Administration
2145 C Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:-

I am writing you in regard to a situation where so many of our girls as well as the regular residential citizens have no means of recreational facilities. Namely: Motion Picture entertainment. Just before the war, we purchased the property at the corner of 26th & Benning Road, N. E., and our plans were drawn and approved by the District Building Department and just as we were about to break ground, along came the war.

Mr. Lichtman and myself feel that you can help us in the matter of securing amusement for our people in that section. Also knowing that the First Lady dedicated Midway Hall and all of the Government Buildings, and that she herself will realize the need of a theatre for our people out there, will you kindly ask Mrs. Roosevelt if she would send a letter of recommendation to the New York Board Headquarters who have the power to act in the emergency of this type.

Mr. Plato, who built the government project and whom we also expect to build this theatre also believes it is very bad morale to fill up dormitories like that with no chance for amusements of any kind. Of course, there are plenty of white theatres out in that section, but that means nothing to our group. I know you are very busy, but I must call on you, knowing your keen interest always for morale among our younger people, and to ask the First Lady to give us this help, I am quite sure a suggestion from her would mean that Mr. Plato could get the go sign on this particular project, because she has been on the scene herself.

We expect to build the theatre and the government's only help would be the granting of a few priorities.

With sincere wishes for your good health, I am

Sincerely yours,
LICHTMAN THEATRES

[Signature]
Rufus G. Byars
Public Relations Director

rgb:pp

JUL 7 1943

FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION

2145 C STREET NW., WASHINGTON, D. C.

ent
7/21/43

1812 Ninth Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.
July 6, 1943

Handwritten notes:
The Bureau has been
informed of the
letter from Mrs. Roosevelt
and the Bureau is
working on it.
(6-10-43)

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

As you know, the final stroke came to us last Saturday afternoon at 2:30. I have felt like a mother at the burial of her murdered child from that moment until now. It is hard to give NYA up. I think of the thousands of youth all over America who had no other chance but that they got through the National Youth Administration. Then I also know that the work the National Youth Administration has done these past eight years will be inerasable. Our Administrator, Aubrey Williams has set, through his administration of the program of the National Youth Administration, a democratic precedent that may well be emulated during the coming years.

We are so grateful to you and our President for your vision in establishing and maintaining this unparalleled opportunity for our youth. I shall hope to talk over with you my next step.

"Though I am hurte I am not slaine.
I'll lay me down and bleede a while,
And then I'll rise and fight again."

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune
Director of Negro Affairs

July 28, 1943.

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

I am just as sad as you are to have the National Youth Administration abolished. I feel it was our first step in providing education to those who could not afford to pay for it. I am confident that the splendid work which you and Aubrey and others have done is not entirely lost and perhaps after the war is over, enough people will realize its value to demand its revival.

I shall hope to see you the first time I am in Washington.

With best wishes,

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Mary McL. Bethune
1812 Ninth Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

VDS

July 21, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

Have you found anything
for Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune?

E.R.

VDS

JUL 30 1943

Bethune-Cookman College

Daytona Beach, Florida

File to

JAMES A. COLSTON, PRESIDENT
ATTY. THOMAS T. COBB, CHAIRMAN, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE TRUSTEE BOARD
BERTHA L. MITCHELL, SECRETARY-TREASURER

MARY McLEOD BETHUNE
President-Emerita

July 26, 1943

My dear Board Member,

For the past two weeks I have been having a rest cure in the beautiful little south upper room of my home. I have been living up here among the boughs of the trees, listening to the sound of the ocean and enjoying the singing of the birds. My mind is content for I know the God I have loved and served makes no mistakes.

On July 10th another birthday rolled around and I have been looking back over the years with deep appreciation to God and my friends for the opportunity I have had to serve and the lives I have been able to touch. I have been looking through the windows at the beautiful campus of Bethune-Cookman College with a sacred adoration of what all of us together have been able to do here. I have been thinking of the thousands of boys and girls, men and women whose lives have been enriched, whose vision quickened and who are now serving on land, sea and in the air, serving God, humanity, their country and the World. I am so grateful for the opportunity we have shared together in the building and maintaining of our beautiful school. The motto over our platform stands vividly before me as I dictate - "Our whole school for Christian Service."

On December 15th, 1942 at 2:30 o'clock, I retired, as you know, from the Presidency of our Institution, but the responsibility for the year's work still rested upon me until the close of the fiscal year, June 30th - then my administration definitely ended. As I think of you fine men and women here, there and everywhere and the confidence you have extended to me during the years, tears of appreciation roll down my cheeks and I want to say to each one of you - Thank you - God bless you. We have done a good job. I am so happy to report to you that on June 30th, 1943 our business office was able to report to us that we were closing the year on the right side of the ledger with a surplus of nearly four thousand dollars - an endowment of \$157,000 - a clientele of fine friends over the country - an army of young people at work in the many fields of service and not a dollar of indebtedness. Oh, may I again say Thank God - thank you and the friends who have stood by during the years.

From March until this time, through the helping hand of Mrs. Roosevelt, we have been able to send to the College \$20,000 or more to enable us, with the help from other sources, to clear up our budget and to start a new year with a clean slate.

#2 -

Now as Mr. Colston really takes over the helm of administrative work, may I ask each one of you to give him your fullest cooperation and let us not stop until we make permanent the beautiful Institution which we have given ourselves to build.

For the past nine years, I have been giving of myself very largely to national and international work. My vision has been broadened and today I see the world with all nations and races fighting for democracy, freedom, peace and brotherhood.

The National Youth Administration of which I have been a part for nine years, has been liquidated. I am still busy in Washington, clearing my files and office. I do not know what my next step will be - I am now waiting for the still small voice and according to my strength, my responsibilities will come. I shall try to make it possible to do all of the solid resting I can for the remainder of the summer. Like Sir Andrew Barton, I can say, "I'm a little wounded, but I am not slain; I will lay me down for to bleed a while, then I'll rise and fight with you again."

Stand close beside Bethune-Cookman College. My heart is overflowing with gratitude for all you have done and all you may do in the years to come.

Sincerely yours,
Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune.

MMB-J

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August 19, 1943

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mrs. Roosevelt received your letter of August 11 and asked me to tell you that she will be away for a time and is sorry not to be able to see you.

Mrs. Roosevelt suggested that Mr. Spingarn would probably be a good adviser. She thought Father Haas' organization might be a good place for you to work, but Father Haas has no place important enough. She asked how about your talking with Mr. Jonathan Daniels.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
1812 Ninth Street N.W.
Washington, D.C.

WAR MANPOWER COMMISSION
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION

2145 C Street, Northwest
Washington, D. C.

SEP 29 1943

*add
10/5/43*

September 28, 1943

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Will be 15-6-11/12

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

We are all so happy to have your safe return home. Our prayers and deep affection followed you every step of the way. You were wonderfully used and you are doing a task for the womanhood of the world that will be everlasting.

You will probably be happy to know that I have had a good rest since you have been away. I spent five weeks at Freedmen's Hospital getting the medical care and professionally supervised rest I needed. I am now in good physical condition and ready for the next task.

Things are going along very well at the school but continuous plans must be made for its financial upkeep.

When you can receive me, please advise me. I will be in Washington until noon, Saturday October 2, when I leave for Florida. I will return here on October 9. There are many things I want to talk over with you.

I hope you are not too tired.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune
Director of Negro Affairs



WAR MANPOWER COMMISSION
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION

2145 C Street, Northwest
Washington, D. C.

October 1, 1943

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I hope you will find it possible to grant the request of ~~Mrs. Mahler~~ of the Colored Orphan Asylum made in her letter to you dated September 3. It will be a great incentive to those people just to have you there. Hubert Delany who has visited you on two or three occasions, is also anxious to have you there.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune
Director of Negro Affairs



Pending.

only 5

October 5, 1943.

100

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mrs. Roosevelt has your letter of September 28th and will be glad to see you at the White House on Friday, October 15th, at 12:00 noon.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
National Youth Administration
2145 C Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

VDS

WAR MANPOWER COMMISSION
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION

2145 C Street, Northwest
Washington, D. C.

October 5, 1943

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Mrs. Williams, the mother of the boy concerned in the contents of these letters is here in my office, stricken and broken in spirit, with a deep hope that something may be thought of to give some readjustment to the condition of her son. If you will take the time to read through these letters you will get a clear understanding of what the case is. Mrs. Williams' deep grief is why her son was turned over to the civilian court of the city of Savannah by the Army Military Police.

We know the amount of things that are heaped upon your desk for thought, but my dear Mrs. Roosevelt, it is because of the confidence of the most humble citizens of America in you that these appeals come.

If there is anything you can do, I know you will say so to Mrs. Williams. If you need me to talk this over with you, I shall be very glad to come when it is convenient for you.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune

Mary McLeod Bethune
Director of Negro Affairs



Bku Oct 4/43

Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt
White H. Wash D.C.
Dear Mrs Roosevelt

I am writing you in regards to my son Pvt. Herbert Williams who soldered at Hunter Field Savannah Ga. until Jan 4/43 when he was then pickup by M.P. at Hunter Field + charged with possession of 5 marijuana cigaretts he was then turned over to Chatham Co. Court for trial he was tried + sentenced in Feb 43 for from five to seven years on a Ga. chain gang without being given a chance of a lawyer to defend him nor did he have a jury trial or anything that would tend to make you or I feel that he was justly delt with, I am not saying whether or not he was innocent or guilty I am only asking for a

2
fair + unprejudice trial for not
my son only but for every son
of America that is in the Arm
forces fighting + dying for the same
Democracy that some of us is allowing
to enjoy to ^{my} knowledge narcotics
is always considered a Federal
offense when in possession of
unauthorized person or persons
so can not to save ^{me} understand
why was it that the War Dept.
turn a soldier serving his country
over to a County Court for punishment
on a chain gang in the South
where you know as well as all of
us the rights of negro's in the
South has never been consid-
ered + justice long forgotten
I wrote Pres. F. D. R. + was answer-
ed by Mr. Bennett saying there
was nothing could be done
in helping my son in his trouble
I also wrote Sec. Stimson

+ Adjutant Genl. H. M. Jones
 Comm. of The Third Air Force
 which includes Hunter Field
 to get the answer as I did from
 the letter sent Pres F. D. R.
 I visited my son in Savah. City
 prison + also went to the
 sentencing judge that sentenced
 my son + tried to talk to con-
 sidering the boy but he refused
 to speak to me at all but he exp^{er}
 to my lawyer some angels of
 the case say that the case was
 given to County for trial because
 Federal authority could only give
 up to two years if son was
 found guilty but County auth-
 orities could give him up to
 ten years for same offense
 that made me feel awful bitter
 after send two sons to the
 Defense of our country + to be
 accorded such treatment by

An American Court of Law
 though I do whole heartedly agree
 that any one that breaks the law
 should be punished according to his
 crime, but should be given according
 to our Constitution a fair trial
 + according to Article of war # 74
 that soldier should not be
 turned over to a civilian court
 for punishment knowing the
 plight of the negro in the afore-
 mentioned state this is my
 second letter to you concerning
 this soldier though I did not recd
 any answer from the first one
 but hearing you speak on so
 many occasions in + around
 N. Y. + Greater N. Y. putting so
 much stress on fair play
 + full justice for whether white
 or colored + you training some
 in the arm forces of which

All America feels very proud
 I thought if this letter reach you
 you would sympathize with the
 family of the above mentioned
 soldier also the grief stricken
 bearer of this letter is no other
 mother of this boy & being the
 father of this soldier are again
 pleading with you for your
 helping to have something done
 in releasing my son, I am now
 thanking in advance & hoping for
 early reply I remain a much
 wronged citizen of America

Christopher C. Williams
 Temp. Add 470 Putnam Ave
 3 Br. N.Y.

P.S. This is the first offense
 of my son - born & reared in N.Y.C.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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The Iota Phi Lambda Sorority
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Woman's Home and Foreign Mission Society—The A. M. E. Church

The National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses
The National Democratic Women's Association
The Phi Delta Kappa Sorority
The Republican National Association of Women
The Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority
The Women's Parent Mite Missionary Society
The Zeta Phi Beta Sorority

The Lambda Kappa Mu Sorority
The Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society—A. M. E. Z. Church
The Women's Auxiliary—National Medical Association
The Women's Auxiliary—National Dental Association
The Matron's Guild (Wives of the Omega Psi Phi)
The Achievement Clubs

"UNITY OF PURPOSE"

"UNITY OF ACTION"

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, INC.
(Affiliated with The National Council of Women of the United States, Inc.)

1812 NINTH STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Telephone: DUPONT 2483

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
Founder and President

October 9, 1943

Jeanetta Welch
Executive Secretary

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
Hyde Park, New York

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am sending you a thoughtfully prepared statement of my future aims for the National Council of Negro Women. I took the time while in the hospital for study and meditation and I feel that the biggest job to be done in the world today is the building up of better race relations, and I am thinking of the best way we can work out a program that will be far reaching. We know that all the things we want to do cannot be done at once. Will you take the time, when you are not too tied up, to read it through and give to me your reactions to it.

We are holding the annual meeting of the Council in New York City on October 15, 16 and 17. We are taking as a theme thought, "United We Build a Free World". You have done and are doing so much to help bring about this freedom we all desire. The women appreciate your courage and dauntless faith, and the energy that you are putting into this whole program. They want you to know that they appreciate it. I would be very happy if you will send to me a letter of greeting to the Council to be read to them at our big interracial meeting which will be held on Sunday afternoon at the Golden Gate Auditorium in New York.

I hope it will be possible for you to see me in the afternoon or the evening of October 13. It is my plan to leave for New York at 8 o'clock on the morning of the 14th but if you cannot see me on the 13th, I could take a later train on the 14th and see you early that morning. I want to talk with you.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune

OFFICIAL ORGAN: "THE AMERICAN WOMAN'S JOURNAL"
(A Quarterly Review)

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October 14, 1943.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mrs. Roosevelt has your letter of October 5th, with its enclosures.

Mrs. Roosevelt received a letter from Herbert Williams early last March and at that time she took his case up with the Attorney General. The report received in answer to this inquiry states that the Federal charge of transportation of marihuana cigarettes was dropped. The charge of purchase was also dropped as this would have given jurisdiction in New York and in both instances the only evidence was the statement of the young man. In view of these facts, Mr. Williams was turned over to the State Court under the State Statute for possession. From the report it seems he was given a fair trial. He entered a plea of guilty and had he requested a lawyer the Court would have provided a lawyer for him.

Inasmuch as this case has been brought to the attention of the Department of Justice and the War Department and in each instance it has been stated nothing can be done, Mrs. Roosevelt deeply regrets that she can see no way to be helpful.

I am returning the papers which accompanied your letter.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

Mrs. Mary Mc Bethune
National Youth Administration
Washington, D. C.

VIG

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 13, 1943

MISS THOMPSON:

Mrs. Bethune will not be back in time to keep the 4 p.m. appointment on Sunday. She does not expect to leave N.Y. until 6 p.m. or thereabouts.

She wonders if she could see Mrs. Roosevelt if she stayed over in New York on Monday, or would she be able to have an appointment here early Monday morning. She will telephone you in the morning, (Thursday.).

(Note on letter sent out to Little Business that Mrs. Roosevelt in Wash. 13th to 18th Can see a.m. of 18th - 12)

Miss Thompson:

Mrs. Bethune is leaving for New York early in the morning of Oct. 14.

She wonders if Mrs. Roosevelt could see her some time on the 13th.

She will be back from New York on Sunday, the 17th.

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2.10.14

2.10.14

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October 22, 1943

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mrs. Roosevelt has received an appeal from the National Negro Foundation, 1126 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Edgar C. Schell, founder and organizer.

An outline of the plan for raising funds, which Mr. Schell has sent to Mrs. Roosevelt, is enclosed. Before making any response to the appeal, Mrs. Roosevelt would like your opinion as to the worthiness of this organization and its program of work.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
National Youth Administration
Washington, D.C.

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THE NATIONAL NEGRO FOUNDATION

To The Memory Of Yesterday . . . The Struggle Of To-Day . . . The Hope Of To-morrow

1126 North Sixth Street
HARRISBURG, PENNA.

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

Loyalty to God, Country and Race
Acquaint ourselves thoroughly with the accomplishments of our past.
Stimulate the flame of aspiration and integrity in the bosoms of our youth.
Guard zealously the Negroes contributions to the advancement of our country.
Labor unceasingly to fasten the Negro more securely into the business and economic structure of our country.
Foster for all men, the protection in all the rights we claim for our selves.
To the accomplishment of all these ends do we diligently toil.

E. C. S

EDGAR C. SCHELL
Founder and Organizer
REV. D. S. BROWN
Field Representative

October 14th., 1943.

To The First Lady of America
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House,
Washington D. C.,

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

This letter is in reference to your communication of September 28th. for which, please accept my grateful and humble thanks.

The following is a comprehensive synopsis (without detail) of the main objectives and self subsidy plan of The National Negro Foundation.

It is our objective and we are in the process of securing members and setting up subsidiary chapters of the Foundation. When a sufficient number of chapters have been established we will call a convention of the same. This convention will name and dedicate National Negro Tag Week.

Tag Week Defined

National Negro Tag Week will be a week dedicated to the commemoration of the contributions the Negro has made in every field of activity to the culture and advancement of our country. A week of special effort in kindling the flame of aspiration, integrity and good citizenship within our group and a sincere and conscientious effort to create a more cordial relationship and better understanding among the peoples of our country. A week during which the members of the various local chapters will attempt to tag every member and friend of the race in America.

The proceeds from the sale of these tags will go into a national fund. The same to be used in the aid of worthy and qualified members of the race, with out profit in the pursuit of business and commercial undertakings under the direction and guidance of The National Negro Foundation.

It is our hope to secure as Trustees of the Fund Americans of unquestionable integrity and friendly to the needs of the Negro.

I trust that from the above you can glean a small conception of the general idea and if desired, I would be pleased to furnish a complete illustration of it's every aspect.

Again thanking you very kindly, I beg to remain,

Yours very truly,

Edgar C. Schell

WAR MANPOWER COMMISSION
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION

2145 C Street, Northwest
Washington 25, D. C.

November 1, 1943

Miss Malvina Thompson
Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Miss Thompson:

I have just received a letter from President Wm. Lloyd Imes of Knoxville, Tennessee, stating that he had invited Mrs. Roosevelt to give the address to the graduating class of Knoxville College on June 5, 1944 at 10 A.M. I am writing to say that this is a splendid school and the people in that section would be happy to have Mrs. Roosevelt there. It would help a great deal.

Mrs. Roosevelt told me that she would be writing me stating what time we might hold the meetings for Bethune-Cookman -- one in Philadelphia and another in Pittsburgh. As soon as she can get her appointments in, please inform me so that I can be making plans for them. Things like these take a little time to get them properly worked up. We want to have them on a high order. If she is not going to Pittsburgh, Detroit is anxious to have a meeting, so are the people in Columbus, Ohio and Boston. Whatever plans are convenient for her, please let me know so that I may get in line.

I have just returned from the College. We are desperately in need of funds and I must do what I can to help carry things on there.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune



*under
11/18/43*

NOV - 2 RECD

*Cannot give her to front
I did not know because of her
policy but you
may be able
to see
other forms
attached
in case*

100
November 8, 1943.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mrs. Roosevelt, after careful consideration, decided she would not do much travelling now because of so much criticism, especially in Congress. As you know, she does not mind personal criticism but feels it might hurt other more important things if she gave the opposition any more ammunition.

It may be possible in January to do Detroit and Philadelphia, but I doubt if Mrs. Roosevelt will go to Tennessee.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

D
Mrs. Mary McL. Bethune
National Youth Administration
2145 C Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

VDS

100

November 11, 1943.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mrs. Roosevelt has your message about the need of funds at the college. She will let you know soon whether or not she can help.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

Mrs. Mary McL. Bethune
National Youth Administration
2145 C Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

VDS

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 11, 1943

Handwritten: 11/11/43
Mrs. Bethune
Mrs. Roosevelt
Mrs. Karl
Mrs. Pepper
Mrs. Roosevelt
Mrs. Pepper

6

MISS THOMPSON:

Mrs. Bethune asks if Mrs. Roosevelt would give Mrs. Mary Karl of Daytona Beach, Florida, an appointment.

X Mrs. Karl is now in Florida, is interested in hospitals for veterans, and would like to see Mrs. Roosevelt and Senator Pepper. She is head of the Vocational Education Department in the city of Daytona Beach.

Mrs. Karl is white.

Call

Mrs. Bethune's secy.
NYA - extension 2008

Handwritten: Looked by her 11/13/43

Handwritten: 2

100

November 25, 1943

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mrs. Roosevelt has asked Mr. Pickett
to send you \$200.

Mrs. Roosevelt wants to talk to you
about the College after December first.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
National Youth Administration
2145 C Street N.W.
Washington, D.C.

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ELEANOR ROOSEVELT
Honorary Chairman

WILL W. ALEXANDER
Treasurer

MARY McLEOD BETHUNE
President

DEC 18 1943

BETHUNE COOKMAN COLLEGE CONTINUATION FUND

Office: 1812 Ninth Street N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

12-30-43

FRANK H. WEST
Director

December 15, 1943

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

You were very kind to see Miss Smith. I am enclosing the letter just received from her. I think that if there are any suggestions that you can offer or anything that can be done to relieve the situation there, it will be a great service.

A great shadow of fear has come over her at this time and she needs a little bracing.

belate in the evening

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune

SOUTH TODAY

EDITORS
LILLIAN E. SMITH
PAULA SNELLING

December 11, 1943

CLAYTON, GEORGIA

Confidential

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

I am so grateful to you for making the appointment with Mrs. Roosevelt for me. I went to see her at 9 o'clock Thursday morning and had a good talk with her for thirty minutes. We talked mostly about the racial situation in general and then at the last after she asked me how I was getting along down here I told her very briefly of some of my difficulties, but I did not give her any details. She said that she would talk to Mr. Biddle - particularly about the F.B.I. agents coming in and "investigating" me. I told her that these anti-Negro politicians had requested this investigation (we think) for the purpose of embarrassing me and for the purpose of stirring up rumors among the country people who heard about it. The names of the men who are fighting me are: R.E. Cannon, Clyde Ramey, and probably their lawyer, Thad L. Bynum. I am not certain how overt the actions of the lawyer are - that is I do not know that he actually sneaks against my work or against the Negro. He may be too shrewd to do this and I have not been able to get enough information about it to know. He is very close to his clients however, and probably offers them very astute advice.

R.E. Cannon is running for political office and he and his family - a large mountain clan - have been semi-openly showing the pamphlets which I wrote to many of the country people who are illiterate and are easily confused by such anti-Negro talk. The statement that has been used about me is that I am "against the Whites and for the Negroes", and this naturally inflames the ignorant. R.E. Cannon is the political front for Clyde Ramey who runs the road houses and deals in the illegal sale of whiskey (as it is illegal to sell whiskey in Rabun County.) Clyde's Place is one of the notorious road houses in Georgia and is known throughout Georgia. Clyde Ramey is closely allied with the reactionary political forces of the state and has been "protected" for years by high official in the state. My brother closed his road houses up a few months ago and this fight against me was precipitated by the revenge motive and the desire to inject the racial element in a local political situation. The serious implications are not at all the political aspects of it but the racial ones. I am concerned mainly on two counts:

- (1) This anti-Negro talk, if carried on for the next six weeks as steadily as it has been for the last two weeks, is going to inflame this rural

SOUTH TODAY

EDITORS
LILLIAN E. SMITH
PAULA SNELLING

CLAYTON, GEORGIA

Mrs. Bethune page -2-

population and arouse feelings of fear and hate which may culminate in racial trouble in our little colored community. There is nothing that the anti-Negro forces of Georgia would like to see more than this. They would like to be able to say that for 100 years Rabun County has not had any racial conflict but that Lillian Smith by her magazine South Today and her reprints of pamphlets has caused trouble in a county where there has never been anything but "peace and harmony." They would like to use this as proof that "people like me" always stir up trouble. The same anti-Negro crowd in the legislature last year who attempted to investigate me before the legislature and were hushed up by my friends and by the fact that socially I stand well throughout the state would now like very much to see trouble begin in my home county. They would throw their power back of these local people if they are able to in order to cause racial trouble.

(2) I have been trying ever since I started my work down here to prove to my fellow southerners that we can do the decent, civilized, democratic thing without becoming martyrs. I feel that this is very important for white southerners are chained by their fears: their fear of losing social prestige; their fear of gaining unwanted notoriety; their fear of losing jobs; their fear of just such things as "investigations"; their more subtle fear of "doing more harm than good" and of stirring up racial trouble. Thousands of white southerners are beginning to look with respect and some reluctant admiration upon what we have been doing with South Today and what I have been doing in my public speeches. Some of them ~~are~~ are beginning to lose ~~some~~ of their fears and to summon the courage to speak out more plainly themselves and to act more democratically.

SOUTH TODAY

EDITORS
LILLIAN E. SMITH
PAULA SNELLING

CLAYTON, GEORGIA

Mrs. Bethune page -3-

While I do not want to overestimate the importance of the work I am trying to do, I feel that perhaps it has enough significance for us to feel justified in wanting to keep it going. I believe another year of demonstration that one can speak out plainly and honestly and sympathetically will be enough to win over many liberals from their position of not doing anything.

Mrs. Bethune-I have written this out in full so that you will have the names and facts to give Mrs. Roosevelt if you think she needs them when she speaks to Mr. Biddle. I would like for you to destroy this letter after you have given these facts to Mrs. Roosevelt as I do not think it wise to put in writing this kind of situation. I know that I can count completely on your keeping the matter very confidential and not permitting this letter to be seen by anyone but you and Mrs. Roosevelt.

I enjoyed so much my long talk with you and I am truly anxious to work with you on your biography. I do hope you can find time and strength to begin gathering all your important records and to begin writing down in the simplest way, without any regard to style, many of your old memories of your childhood.

Thank you again for everything you have done to help me.

Sincerely yours,

Lillian Smith

future holds for me, I want to be more definite as to what I can do.

Bc B1
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December 20, 1943

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

I have been having meetings with all kinds of people, but I haven't yet had a talk with the President. I have thought a great deal about what you said the other day about wanting a position of importance offered even though you refused it so it would give you prestige with your own people. I do not feel that that would be honest. I think the President should either offer something he wants you to take or an honorary position which would give you prestige.

I have talked again with all the people I know about the college. They feel very strongly that the young man now there should either be able to raise the money needed or get state aid, or that some other purpose should be found which will enlist support, that you cannot raise the money any longer and that the whole trend of feeling is that the states should support education and that we are not going to get private contributions in the way we have in the past.

I hate to say this to you, because I know it is your life work in one sense, but your life work is the young people you have trained and sent to different parts of the country, so you must not feel, even if the institution is used in a different way, that your life work has, in any way, been impaired.

On your own work, the general agreement is that there is a great deal of useful work you

could do through the council and through your connection with them as individuals throughout the country. I think that it will not be difficult to get you an adequate income to do this work. I hope you will make the headquarters for which Mr. Field has given you money, a visible and thriving place for interests which appeal to both colored and white.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, President
Bethune Cookman College Continuation Fund
1812 Ninth Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

MCT:HY

Sethune:

I have been having meetings with all kinds of people but I haven't yet had a talk with the President. I have thought a great deal about what you said the other day about wanting a position of importance offered even though you refused it so it would give you prestige with your own people. I do not feel that that would be honest. I think the President should either offer something he wants you to take or an honorary position which would give you prestige.

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e.r.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, Inc.

(Affiliated with the National Council of Women of the United States, Inc.)

1318 Vermont Avenue, Northwest
Washington 5, D.C.

Telephone: Dupont 2483

January 18, 1944

MARY McLEOD BETHUNE
Founder and President

First Vice-President
VIVIAN CARTER MASON

Second Vice-President
ALMA ILLERY

Third Vice-President
EDITH SAMPSON CLAYTON

Fourth Vice-President
ARENIA MALLORY

Recording Secretary
ETHEL RAMOS HARRIS

Treasurer
ELIZABETH ROSS GORDON

Parliamentarian
SADIE MOSSELL ALEXANDER

Registrar
ELEANOR CURTIS DAILEY

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Historian
MARY CHURCH TERRELL

Executive Committee at Large

ROSA L. GRAGG, Michigan
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AUDLEY MOORE, New York
JULIA PATE BORDERS, Georgia

National Departments and Committee Chairmen

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Department of Employment
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RUTH HOWARD BECKHAM

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CHRISTINE S. SMITH

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Personnel Committee
CORRINE ROBINSON

Program Committee
MAYME MASON HIGGINS

Membership Committee
MAE C. HAWES

Legal Advisers
EUNICE HUNTON CARTER

Mrs Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs Roosevelt:

I returned to Washington about two weeks ago from Florida. I am now in the headquarters of the National Council of Negro Women. From here we hope to put out a program of service for interracial and international good-will, and to stimulate as rapidly as possible thinking and action among women on this important phase of our life.

It seems to me that the building up of interracial good-will, and the exercising of our citizenship rights are most vital at this time. Our first plan is to develop a meeting of representatives of national women's organizations, both Negro and White, to meet with us in a planning conference to discuss possible solutions to the problem of racial intolerance in this country.

We asked the following organizations to join with us in calling this conference and they all agreed with the exception of one: Congress of Women's Auxiliaries of the C.I.O. - yes
National Council of Catholic Women " "
National Council of Jewish Women " "
National Council of Women of the United States " "
National Women's Trade Union League " "
Young Women's Christian Association " "
American Association of University Women No, but will send rep.

The call will go out from these organizations to fifty or other national women's organizations to attend a Planning Conference on "Building a Better Race Relationship" to be held at the K Street Y.W.C.A., Friday, February 11 at 10:00 AM, to 5:00 P. M.

I would be very happy to have you come in and talk with us at this conference. In fact, we would like to have you as our luncheon speaker on that date, and if you can, it would certainly be a fine thing to have you participate in the whole conference. It is a marvelous thing to have all of these national women's organizations cooperate in this manner. Women as a unit can do much to settle all of this racial unrest now and in the past.

Official Organ: "THE AFRICAN WOMAN'S JOURNAL"
(A Quarterly Journal)

JEANETTA WELCH BROWN
Executive Secretary
Editor-in-Chief of the
Journal
SUE BAILEY THURMAN
Circulation Manager
HARRIET CURTIS HALL

Handwritten notes:
Young girls...
Key...

Much interest has been manifested on the part of these organizations to participate in such a conference.

Our own headquarters will not be in readiness for this meeting, otherwise it would be held here.

I want to see you and talk with you as soon as possible, and I would deeply appreciate if you could come over here and see the place as raw material, and let us consult with you on what the possibilities are here. A call from you as speedily as possible will be greatly appreciated.

I have had another severe attack of asthma, but am getting along all right now.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune

100
January 22, 1944

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mrs. Roosevelt asks me to say that she will go to the conference at the Y-CA on Friday, February 11th. She cannot, however, see your building until she returns at the end of the month.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
National Council of Negro Women
1318 Vermont Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Mr. Roosevelt, This is a sketch
of a tentative Call to our planning
conference.

The proposed agenda for the meeting
will be sent you shortly.

We do hope you will find
it convenient to be with us.
It would mean so much to us.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, Inc.

(Affiliated with the National Council of Women of the United States, Inc.)

1318 Vermont Avenue, Northwest
Washington 5, D.C.

Telephone: Dupont 2483

February 1, 1944

MARY McLEOD BETHUNE
Founder and President

First Vice-President
VIVIAN CARTER MASON

Second Vice-President
ALMA ILLERY

Third Vice-President
EDITH SAMPSON CLAYTON

Fourth Vice-President
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JEANETTA WELCH BROWN
Executive Secretary

Editor-in-Chief of the
Journal
SUE BAILEY THURMAN

Circulation Manager
HARRIET CURTIS HALL

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

You were so kind to plan to be with us at our National Planning Conference on "Building Better Race Relationships", February 11th, at the Y. W. C. A., 17th and K Sts., N. W.

Plans are well on the way, and we are greatly encouraged over the enthusiasm of the women.

Your presence will inspire the women to bestir themselves in their organizations and communities to actually do something about America's #1 problem--the problem of minorities.

We have placed you in the morning, as the main speaker, because we wish you to give the keynote to the thinking of the women in their discussions throughout the day. Following your address will be a Roundtable Discussion. We are enclosing a tentative program for your information.

This Conference will be a springboard for a series of community interracial conferences in the several communities throughout the country, such as "Know Your Neighbor Week"; "Brotherhood Week", etc.

Knowing how important it is for a Conference like this to get the right start, we all felt that your presence and your keynote address will put it beyond "just another interracial gathering".

I hope it will be possible for you to spend much time with us that day. The women will need you in their discussions

Mary McLeod Bethune

Official Organ: "THE AFRAMERICAN WOMAN'S JOURNAL"
(A Quarterly Journal)

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt - 2

and questions, and I am sure you will be interested in
their thinking and expressions.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune

Mary McLeod Bethune
President

MMB/e

Enclosures

Feb. 11

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 3, 1944

113

Miss Thompson:

This meeting opens at 10:00 and Mrs. Bethune would like Mrs. Roosevelt to be there at 10:30 if possible. The rest of the arrangements - her absence from 12:30 to 2:30 is O.K.

DD

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO PARTICIPATE WITH OTHER
NATIONAL WOMEN'S GROUPS

in a

NATIONAL PLANNING CONFERENCE

on

Building a Better Race Relationship

to be held at the

Young Women's Christian Assoc.
17th and K Streets, N. W.
(Third floor Clubroom)
Washington, D. C.

Friday, February 11, 1944

10:00 A. M. - 5 P. M.

R.S.V.P.

The American Association of University Women ??
Congress of Women's Auxiliaries of the C. I. O.
The National Council of Catholic Women
The National Council of Jewish Women
The National Council of Negro Women, Inc.
The National Council of Women of the U. S.
The National Women's Trade Union League
The Young Women's Christian Association

Throughout the Nation there is a growing realization of the need for some national planning and action by all groups of people on the problem of racial understanding and their relationship to our total war aims.

The hope of the world lies in the sympathy and understanding of each group with the problems of the others.

During times of high emotional stress, hate mongers use every method at their command to stir up deep animosity, disunite groups and thus forestall the day of achieving a true democracy.

With the beginning of demobilization, present problems will be accentuated unless some basic planning and constructive work is done now. Women of America, indeed, all women must join hands now and make plans to insure for our men and women in the armed forces and for us all that unity and that security here at home which they have so nobly sacrificed to attain for all of the peoples of the World.

NATIONAL PLANNING CONFERENCE

ON

*Building Better Race
Relationships*

Friday, February 11, 1944

YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION
17th and K Streets, N. W.
Fourth Floor Clubroom
Washington, D. C.



"UNITED WE BUILD A FREE WORLD"

Program

MORNING SESSION—9:30-12:15

9:30 A. M. Registration

10:00 A. M. Opening—Star Spangled Banner

Statement of Purpose..... Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Pres.
National Council of Negro Women, Inc.

Introduction of Guest Speaker..... Mrs. Joseph M. Welt, Pres.
National Council of Jewish Women, Inc.

Guest Speaker..... Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt

Roundtable Discussion: WHAT ARE THE FACTS?

Chairman—Mrs. Henry Ingraham, President
National Young Women's Association

Discussants

Mrs. Ruth Muskrat Bronson
Indian Affairs, Interior Department

Mrs. Estelle Massey Riddle, Chairman
Public Affairs Department
National Council of Negro Women, Inc.

Mr. Ernesto Galarza
Chief of Division of Labor and Social Information
Pan American Union

Miss Belle D. Mazur
National Council of Jewish Women, Inc.

Dr. Ruth Benedict
Associate Professor, Dept. of Anthropology,
Columbia University

Floor Discussion:

Chairman—Mrs. Robert Angelo, President,
National Council of Catholic Women

12:30 P. M. Lunch (Available in Building)



Afternoon Session

1:45-5:00 P. M.

1:45 P. M. Feature—"Sing Around the World"

2:00 P. M. — Panel Discussion: WOMEN UNITE TO
ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE

Chairman—Mrs. Harold Milligan, Pres.
National Council of Women of the U. S.

Summary Discussion

Chairman—Miss Elisabeth Christman
Sec.-Treas. National Women's Trade
Union League of America

Closing—America the Beautiful

Sponsoring Organizations

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN, INC.
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, INC.
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN OF THE UNITED STATES
NATIONAL WOMENS TRADE UNION LEAGUE OF AMERICA



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO PARTICIPATE
WITH OTHER NATIONAL WOMEN'S GROUPS

IN A

*National Planning
Conference*

ON

Building Better Race Relationship

TO BE HELD AT THE
YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION
17TH AND K STREETS, N. W.
(Fourth Floor Clubroom)
WASHINGTON, D. C.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1944
10:00 A. M. - 5 P. M.

R.S.V.P.

SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN
THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN
THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, INC.
THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN OF THE U. S.
THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S TRADE UNION LEAGUE
THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

Throughout the Nation there is a growing realization of the need for some united planning and action by all groups of people on the problems of racial understanding and their relationship to our total war aims.

The hope of the world lies in the sympathy and understanding of each group with the problems of the others.

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A
PREVIEW

OF THE
NATIONAL PLANNING CONFERENCE
"BUILDING BETTER RACE RELATIONSHIP"
Friday - February 11, 1944

TO BE HELD AT -

Y.W.C.A.
17th and K Streets, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

"UNITED WE BUILD A FREE WORLD"

INTRODUCTIONS -

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, President
National Council of Negro Women, Inc.

Mrs. Joseph M. Welt, President
National Council of Jewish Women

GUEST SPEAKER - MRS. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION - WHAT ARE THE FACTS?

Mrs. Ruth Muskrat Bronson
Indian Affairs, Interior Department

Mrs. Estelle Massey Riddle, Chairman
Public Affairs, Department
National Council of Negro Women, Inc.

Mr. Carlos Castaneda
Mexican Affairs, F.E.P.C.

Dr. Margaret Meade, Anthropologist
New York Museum of National History

(Other participants to be announced)

C H I R M E N

Mrs. Henry Ingraham, President
National Board Young Women's Christian Assoc.

Mrs. Robert A. Angelo, President
National Council of Catholic Women

Mrs. Harold Milligan, President
National Council of Women of the U.S.

Miss Elisabeth Christman, Sec'y-Treas.
National Women's Trade Union League of America

* * * *

Panel Discussion - "WOMEN UNITE TO ACCEPT THE
CHALLENGE"

SUMMARY

(For further information, write to:

The National Council of Negro Women, Inc.
1318 Vermont Avenue, N. W.
Washington 5, D. C.)

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN
THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN
THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, INC.
THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN OF THE U.S.
THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S TRADE UNION LEAGUE
THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

100
February 12, 1944.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mrs. Roosevelt feels you will
be interested to see the enclosed excerpt
from a letter from Dr. Will W. Alexander.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

Mrs. Mary McL. Bethune
1318 Vermont Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

VDS

February 15, 1944.

100

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

I understand that Mr. McNutt is offering you a place in his organization. I think there is an opportunity there, under a new man who comes from the Middle West, to do a really good job.

Of course, I do not know how much time you feel your Negro Council of Women must have but this ought to be a real job.

I think in all government jobs there is time in the late afternoon and evening to do what I imagine is more or less a hostess job at the house and a planning job which other people can execute for you in the organization.

With best wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Mary McL. Bethune
1318 Vermont Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

VDS

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, Inc.

(Affiliated with the National Council of Women of the United States, Inc.)

1318 Vermont Avenue, Northwest
Washington 5, D.C.

Telephone: Dupont 2483

February 14, 1944

100
JEANETTA WELCH BROWN
Executive Secretary
Editor-in-Chief of the
Journal
SUE BAILEY THURMAN
Circulation Manager
HARRIET CURTIS HALL

MARY McLEOD BETHUNE
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MAYME MASON HIGGINS

Membership Committee
MAE C. HAWES

Legal Advisers
EUNICE HUNTON CARTER

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I do want to express to you my sincere gratitude and appreciation for giving so much of yourself and time to the National Planning Conference on "Building Better Race Relationship".

Your presence and contributions to the Conference have greatly inspired the women present, particularly the representatives of the sponsoring organizations to actually do something about relieving intolerance among minority groups in America.

Plans for establishing a continuing committee are being formulated. We shall welcome whatever suggestions you may have to offer regarding the set-up of this committee.

On behalf of the National Council of Negro Women and other cooperating organizations, may I extend our fullest appreciation for your participation and cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune

Mary McLeod Bethune
President

MMB/e

Official Organ: "THE AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMAN'S JOURNAL"
(A Quarterly Journal)

*File
4/2/44*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 22, 1944

100

Miss Thompson:

Mrs. Bethune would like you to "meditate" with Mrs. Roosevelt ~~for~~ a proposed date to visit Bennett College in North Carolina. She suggests the following alternative dates:

Week of April 10 to 14

May 14 - 21

Give commencement address on May 29.

*no more contact
with Mrs. Roosevelt
how scheduled*

DD

443

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, Inc.

(Affiliated with the National Council of Women of the United States, Inc.)

1318 Vermont Avenue, Northwest
Washington 5, D.C.

Telephone: Dupont 2483

April 21, 1944

MARY McLEOD BETHUNE
Founder and President

First Vice-President
VIVIAN CARTER MASON

Second Vice-President
ALMA ILLERY

Third Vice-President
EDITH SAMPSON CLAYTON

Fourth Vice-President
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Legal Advisers
EUNICE HUNTON CARTER

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I have been wanting to see you and talk with you. There are so many things to talk about. These are important hours now and there are many things we must do. please give me a chance to come in and see you when it is convenient.

I am enclosing a letter I wish you would read and return to me. It is very significant to me. I am happy when young people are getting themselves concerned about racial conditions in our country.

Please may I ask if you were able to do anything at all about the problem of Dr. Hungerford from New York. You were very kind to see him. He was desperate.

I am feeling very well. Our program is going along most interestingly but there is more and more to be done. Let me see you when possible.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune
PRESIDENT

JEANETTA WELCH BROWN
Executive Secretary
Editor-in-Chief of the
Journal
SUE BAILEY THURMAN
Circulation Manager
HARRIET CURTIS HALL

kill in way 3-1-44
APR 22 1944

Return Thank You
being emergency
1944

I had asked
but later would
be called to die
(See 1st P. 1st
New York 1944)

Official Organ: "THE AFRICAN WOMAN'S JOURNAL"
(A Quarterly Journal)

Note.

April 25, 1944.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mrs. Roosevelt has your letter and will be glad to see you on Wednesday, May 3rd, at 12:00 noon.

Mrs. Roosevelt thinks the enclosed letter from the students of ~~James Madison High School~~ is very encouraging.

Mrs. Roosevelt sent word to the proper authorities about ~~Dr. Hungerford's~~ problem but so far has no idea what could be done. She will let you know when she hears something.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
National Council of Negro Women, Inc.
1318 Vermont Avenue, N. W.
Washington (5), D. C.

VDS



IN REPLYING
ADDRESS THE SURGEON GENERAL
U. S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY
U. S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

WASHINGTON 11
(BETHESDA STATION)

5/16/44
MAY 16 1944

May 13, 1944

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Thank you for your note of May 4th in which you indicated the interest of Negro groups in the utilization of a well qualified Negro physician in the headquarters of the Public Health Service.

For many years a capable Negro officer, Doctor Roscoe Brown, has been on duty with the Public Health Service in Washington serving in a liaison capacity with Negro groups and as an advisor to the Service on matters pertaining to Negro health. In addition to Doctor Brown, there are twelve Negro medical officers (two of whom are women), two Negro dental officers and a number of Negro nurses serving in the field. About one-half of the medical and dental group is commissioned and in the near future the remainder, if eligible, will be placed on commissioned status.

We find the services of Negro professional personnel to be effective in the war effort and it is the continuing policy of the Public Health Service to add to this staff as needs arise.

Sincerely yours,

J. D. Thompson

Acting Surgeon General

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Truitt W. Pittman



May 13, 1944

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Thank you for your note of May 4th in which you indicated the interest of Negro groups in the utilization of a well qualified Negro physician in the headquarters of the Public Health Service.

For many years a capable Negro officer, Doctor Roscoe Brown, has been on duty with the Public Health Service in Washington serving in a liaison capacity with Negro groups and as an advisor to the Service on matters pertaining to Negro health. In addition to Doctor Brown, there are twelve Negro medical officers (two of whom are women), two Negro dental officers and a number of Negro nurses serving in the field. About one-half of the medical and dental group is commissioned and in the near future the remainder, if eligible, will be placed on commissioned status.

We find the services of Negro professional personnel to be effective in the war effort and it is the continuing policy of the Public Health Service to add to this staff as needs arise.

Sincerely yours,

Acting Surgeon General

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

JRH:dgr

100
May 18, 1944.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

In connection with the suggestion that Major Goff be used by the United States Public Health Service, Mrs. Roosevelt finds that for many years a capable Negro officer, Dr. Roscoe Brown, has been on duty with the Public Health Service in Washington serving in a liaison capacity with Negro groups and as an advisor to the Service on matters pertaining to Negro health. In addition to Dr. Brown, there are twelve Negro medical officers (two of whom are women), two Negro dental officers and a number of Negro nurses serving in the field. About one half of the medical and dental group is commissioned and in the near future the remainder, if eligible, will be placed on commissioned status.

The Public Health Service finds the services of Negro professional personnel to be effective in the war effort and it is the continuing policy of the Service to add to this staff as needs arise.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
National Council of Negro Women, Inc.
1318 Vermont Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

VDS

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, Inc.

(Affiliated with the National Council of Women of the United States, Inc.)

1318 Vermont Avenue, Northwest
Washington 5, D.C.

Telephone: Dupont 2483

May 24, 1944

an
5/27

MARY McLEOD BETHUNE
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Executive Secretary

Editor-in-Chief of the
Journal
SUE BAILEY THURMAN

Circulation Manager
HARRIET CURTIS HALL

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

The National Council of Negro Women has just been notified that the tentative date for the launching of the SS. Harriet Tubman, at South Portland, Maine has been changed from May 30th to Saturday, June 3rd at 1:00 A. M.

Because this is the first ship to be named for a Negro woman, we feel that it will have national significance and will do much to raise the morals of Negro women and give them inspiration.

Since the date of the launching has been changed, we hope that it will be possible for you to attend the launching ceremonies, and The National Council of Negro Women, Inc. extends to you a most cordial invitation to be present.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune
President

MMB/e

Official Organ: "THE AFRICAN WOMAN'S JOURNAL"
(A Quarterly Journal)

100
May 27, 1944

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

I have your note of May 24 and am
so glad to hear that you are improving day
by day. I do hope that you will continue
to improve and soon be entirely well again.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
1318 Vermont Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, Inc.

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5-27

May 21, 1944

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Circulation Manager
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Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I simply want you to know that I am getting along
very well indeed. I can feel myself getting stronger each
day. Yesterday I was allowed to sit up for a half hour.

I thought you might be interested to know this.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune

Official Organ: "THE AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMAN'S JOURNAL"
(A Quarterly Journal)

100

May 27, 1944

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mrs. Roosevelt appreciates the cordial invitation extended to her by the National Council of Negro Women, to attend the launching of the SS HARRIET TUBMAN, on June 3, at 9:30 a.m. She regrets, however, that engagements already made for that date prevent her accepting.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
1318 Vermont Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C.

0

for Mrs. Roosevelt
100

MISS THOMPSON:

Mrs. Bethune is very ill with Asthma and has been in Freedman's Hospital since Monday, most of the time in an oxygen tent ~~most of the time~~, and her Doctor asked Mrs. Smith if it would be possible for Mrs. Roosevelt to go to see her sometime tomorrow as he thinks seeing Mrs. Roosevelt would help her a good bit.

X Mrs. Smith who called about this would like to be advised ^{by} Mrs. Roosevelt plans to go. Her telephone number is North 9045.

hml

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, Inc.

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May 26, 1944

JEANETTA WELCH BROWN
Executive Secretary

Editor-in-Chief of the
Journal
SUE BAILEY THURMAN

Circulation Manager
HARRIET CURTIS HALL

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

file

MAY 29 1944

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I regret that my illness will prevent my attendance at the dinner on Tuesday, May 30, honoring Dean and Mrs. Howard Thurman and the Interracial San Francisco Church project to which they go in June. I am so happy that you are speaking on this occasion. I am personally interested, first because the Thurmans are very dear to me - I have known Howard since babyhood - and second, the Interracial Church will be getting a big send-off by your endorsement.

Sue Thurman is the young woman whom I appointed to bring the Aframerican Woman's Journal into existence four years ago and she has been its editor ever since. Her going to California means that at this crucial time we must look for a new editor but I consider the venture to which they go one of the most encouraging signs of the times.

I wanted you to know a little more about them, so I am sending some material which might be of some help to you.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune
PRESIDENT

Official Organ: "THE AFRAMERICAN WOMAN'S JOURNAL"
(A Quarterly Journal)

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, Inc. Bc-B1

(Affiliated with the National Council of Women of the United States, Inc.)

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June 26, 1944

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EUNICE HUNTON CARTER

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

This letter was brought to me with the
hope that I would submit it to you in person. Please
read the contents and if you think it wise, bring the
matter to the attention of our President.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune
PRESIDENT

Walter H. Harris

JEANETTA WELCH BROWN
Executive Secretary
Editor-in-Chief of the
Journal
SUE BAILEY THURMAN
Circulation Manager
HARRIET CURTIS HALL

Official Organ: "THE AFRAMERICAN WOMAN'S JOURNAL"
(A Quarterly Journal)

WALTER W. HARRIS
ATTORNEY AT LAW
408 W. 5TH STREET
CINCINNATI 2, OHIO
June 17, 1944

Mrs. M. M. Bethune
Washington, District of Columbia

My dear Mrs. Bethune,

The bearer of this letter will make clear to you any circumstances relative thereto which you probably will not fully discern from its contents. I, nevertheless, am taking the liberty of requesting you to deliver the enclosed letter to Mrs. Roosevelt, who I am asking in turn to bring to the President's attention. I should greatly appreciate this favor for the reason it has to do with the following:

I represent one, Yoneko Nakazawa, a Japanese alien. This young lady happens to be my secretary whose services I obtained through the War Relocation Authority in October, 1943. I believe I am justified in saying that she deserves any recommendation that I might make in her behalf.

She is being subjected to eminent deportation. The procedure is moving very rapidly. Under our statutes, only the President acting upon the report of the Attorney General, is empowered to except her from the category of enemy aliens and thereby grant her the privilege of applying for citizenship. It is conceivable that even he does not realize that he has this authority, set out as Section D of Section 726, Title 8 of the Aliens and Nationality Acts as amended October 14, 1940, and, shown by Chapter 876, Title 1, Sub-chapter 3, Paragraph 356, 54 Statute 1150, and, as added March 27, 1942, Chapter 199, Title 10, Paragraph 1001 56 Statutes 182 and 183.

This child, and I say child advisidly, for though she is married and now approximately twenty-two years of age, she is still but a child for the reason she doesn't realize the full import of why she is being deported. She is only bewildered. Since the age of seven, she has known no loyalty, understanding, love, or belief in any country other than the United States, and but for her nationality, would have long ago become a good American citizen.

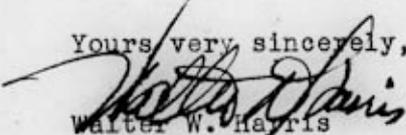
She, too, belongs to a minority which must now say, "We are Americans, too.", and I am certain, you of all people, profoundly realize what that means.

I would submit this to Mrs. Roosevelt personally, but the very delicacy of the situation demands that someone of prestige, and in whom our President has the utmost confidence, intercede

in this young lady's behalf. It may strike you as very unusual that I, a Negro, would appeal for a Japanese, but, somehow, human rights, in my mind, are not evaluated on the basis of class or race, and, I do not believe that I am mistaken when I submit that this young lady has earned not only my effort, but the effort of anyone else in a position to assist her and that she merits the attention, under the circumstances, of the President.

Time is very precious, and if Mrs. Roosevelt desires, and an immediate appointment can be arranged, I will send her there for a conference with the two of you, in order that you may learn for yourselves whether or not there is sufficient merit to warrant the action I am requesting of the President in this enclosure. Upon your telegraphic reply in the event that an appointment is arranged, I will send her, or bring her, if my presence is required. There is no other legal way which I can prevent her deportation.

Yours very sincerely,


Walter W. Harris

WWH:yn

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, Inc.

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1318 Vermont Avenue, Northwest
Washington 5, D.C.

Telephone: Dupont 2483

11/15/44

August 30, 1944

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Editor-in-Chief of the
Journal
SUE BAILEY THURMAN

Circulation Manager
HARRIET CURTIS HALL

Mrs Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs Roosevelt:

The National Council of Negro Women will hold its annual Workshop meeting this year, October 13, 14, 15, 1944 at the Departmental Auditorium, Washington, D. C.

On Sunday, October 15, 4:00 P. M., at our national headquarters, 1318 Vermont Avenue, N.W., we plan to dedicate our building.

Since this will be an historic occasion for all Negro women, we cordially invite you to be present with us, and to be our guest speaker. This building will stand as a shrine for all Negro Women, and from it will emanate programs of interracial and intercultural good will, as well as programs which will interpret the problems, needs and aspirations of Negro women.

We hope that it will be possible for you to share with us the honor of dedicating a national headquarters for Negro women.

With very best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune
President

Accepted 15-44
H. P. W.

Official Organ: "THE AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMAN'S JOURNAL"
(A Quarterly Journal)

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August 30, 1944

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With very best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune
President

15-4
H.P.

Official Organ: "THE AFRAMERICAN WOMAN'S JOURNAL"
(A Quarterly Journal)

Sue Bailey Thurman, born in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, is a graduate of both Oberlin Conservatory and Oberlin College. She was for a time teacher at Hampton Institute, later serving as National Student Secretary for Young Women's Christian Associations of America, in which capacity she was member of the Pilgrimage of Friendship of the American Student Movement to university centers in eight European countries. She was also a member of the Negro Mission of Friendship to India, Burma, and Ceylon, which was chaired by her husband, Dr. Howard Thurman, Dean of the Chapel of Howard University, in 1936. With this latter group she toured 45 college and university centers of the orient. Upon her return to America, Mrs. Thurman founded the Juliette Derricotte Memorial Foundation, raising funds to sustain its scholarships abroad through the Lecture-recital presentations which she has given on Indian Culture to more than a hundred audiences in the United States and Canada. Four American Negro girls have been recipients of Derricotte Foundation scholarships since 1937, the latter two being in residence at Tagore's University in Bengal, during the last year of the poet's life.

As editor of the Aframerican Woman's Journal, the organ of the National Council of Negro Women, since the establishment of the magazine, in April, 1940, Mrs. Thurman has initiated and directed the international seminars of that organization, sponsoring in cooperation with the Women's Organizations of Cuba, the historic seminar in Havana, in 1940, devoted to the Negro's contribution to Cuban Life, the first of its kind to be conducted in any of the Latin countries to the south.

We have no record of it here. I also asked
the Executive Office files thinking it might
have been referred there.

~~to see if it is~~
~~to see if it is~~
Aerial photo seen

September 5, 1944

100 ✓

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mrs. Roosevelt has your letter of August 30 and asks me to say that she can attend the ceremony on October 15 at 4:00 p.m., when the headquarters of the National Council of Negro Women will be dedicated.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
1318 Vermont Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C.

0

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9-11
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OCT 10 1944

October 9, 1944

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Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

The Lichtman Theatre is bringing to Washington the most outstanding Hollywood star of our race - Lena Horne. She is considered tops, and is a great sensation all over America. She comes to Washington October 26 and remains through November 2nd.

We would be very happy if it would be possible for you to receive her at the White House for just a few moments, to shake hands with you and the President. She is unusual.

If you are not here on the 26, please arrange a moment convenient to you between October 23 and the 2nd of November. A morning hour, between 9:00 and 11:00 A. M. will be the thing, I believe, since Miss Horne will be performing six times daily. If I am here at the time you receive her, I will accompany her and Mr. Lichtman. If I am not here, Mr. Lichtman alone will accompany her.

We deeply appreciate this, and please know that all Negroes will be very proud. She is truly representative, and has declared herself among the Hollywood stars for our President.

Let me know if you can arrange this meeting, so that I may inform Mr. Lichtman.

Sincerely yours,
Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune

Handwritten notes:
I have passed this to Mrs. Mason
Oct. 10 - before
MMcL B. J. A.

Official Organ: "THE AFRICAN WOMAN'S JOURNAL"
(A Quarterly Journal)

Note.

October 12, 1944.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mrs. Roosevelt has your letter
and will gladly receive ~~Miss~~ Miss Lena Horne
on October 31st, at ten o'clock.

Mrs. Roosevelt will be away
before that time.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
National Council of Negro Women, Inc.
1318 Vermont Avenue, N. W.
Washington (5), D. C.

VDS

108
✓
October 14, 1944

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mrs. Roosevelt asks if you know anything about the meeting mentioned in the enclosed letter from Mrs. Jean Wilson, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
1318 Vermont Avenue
Washington, D.C.

0

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OCT 19 1944

October 18, 1944

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
White House
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt;

X Mrs Sarah Simpson George, of Monrovia Liberia, is in Washington and wishes very much to have a brief conversation with you before she returns to Liberia. Her husband is a member of the Liberian Legislature. She is living in Washington at # 36 "N" St. N.W. If an appointment can be given her, will you kindly notify her at the above address.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune

Mary McLeod Bethune

937 - for lead

7-11-44
0990

Official Organ: "THE AFRICAN WOMAN'S JOURNAL"
(A Quarterly Journal)

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, Inc.
(Affiliated with the National Council of Women of the United States, Inc.)

1318 Vermont Avenue, Northwest
Washington 5, D.C.

Telephone: Dupont 2483

OCT 19 1944

October 18, 1944

JEANETTA WELCH BROWN
Executive Secretary
Editor-in-Chief of the
Journal
SUE BAILEY THURMAN
Circulation Manager
HARRIET CURTIS HALL

MARY McLEOD BETHUNE
Founder and President

First Vice-President
VIVIAN CARTER MASON

Second Vice-President
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EDITH SAMPSON CLAYTON

Fourth Vice-President
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Membership Committee
MAE C. HAWES

Legal Advisors
EUNICE HUNTON CARTER

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt,
White House
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

I do know about the Meeting in Tulsa Oklahoma, referred
to by Mrs. Jean Wilson, in her letter to you.

Marjorie Joyner is our Western Representative. Things are
moving along very nicely,

Very truly yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune

Official Organ: "THE AFRAMERICAN WOMAN'S JOURNAL"
(A Quarterly Journal)

10/18/44

Oct. 31

10:00 am

MR. TOLLEY:

Mrs. Bethune telephoned this morning regarding the engagement for Miss Lena Horne and asked that the admit cards for the following people be sent to her at 1318 Vermont Avenue N. W. Washington, 5, and she will see that Miss Horne and the men who will accompany her receive them. They are: -

Mr. A. E. Lichtman

Mr. Charles C. Schulman

Miss Lena Horne

In case you need to contact Mrs. Bethune, her 'phone is Dupont 2483. She will be out of town on October 31 so will not come with these people.

M.T.L.

*Sent to
Mrs. Bethune
1318 Vermont Ave.*

NOV 7 1944



THE UNION AIR LINES FLAGSHIP
MARY BETHUNE

YOUR ATTENDANCE IS
REQUESTED AT

THE OFFICIAL CHRISTENING
OF
THE FLAGSHIP
"MARY BETHUNE"

ON

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER TWELFTH

AT THREE O'CLOCK IN
THE AFTERNOON

—
GRIFFITH STADIUM
—

Please present this invitation at the Georgia Avenue entrance gate.

The Union Air Lines
IS A
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IT IS HOPED THAT THIS COMPANY WILL
OFFER EMPLOYMENT TO MANY FLYERS
AND MECHANICS WHO, AT THIS MOMENT,
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THE UNITED STATES ARMY AIR CORPS,
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THE UNION AIR LINES
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Telephone: HObart 2031

28th QM Tng Company
5th QM Tng Battalion
1st QM Tng Group
Camp Lee, Virginia

8 December 1944

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, President
National Council of Negro Women, Inc.
1318 Vermont Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

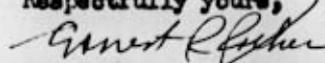
My dear Mrs. Bethune:

I received your letter yesterday and have already forwarded to Mrs. Roosevelt the name of my company commander as per your request. I am very sorry that I omitted this information in my first letter, but I hope the oversight will not hold up things to any great extent. Further, was the omission in both letters of the army statistics on Pvt Arthur L. Harris; his company being inactivated and he being on pass made it impossible. He is now under the direct supervision of Col. W. W. Watson, 1st QM Tng Group, Camp Lee, Virginia.

I wish I had words to express how anxious Pvt Harris and I are to get started on the project. We feel that this idea will be one of the greatest goodwill and morale builders of all time. The friends it will make will be many. The book will win new advocates for our cause because it will not be one of fictional base but that of facts; facts so portrayed that the most illiterate may intelligently grasp their meanings.

May the day soon come with the help of you, with the help of Mrs. Roosevelt and with the help of God, that we may begin making this idea become an outstanding reality.

Respectfully yours,



Pvt. Ernest R. Rather.

28th QM Tng Company
5th QM Tng Battalion
1st QM Tng Group
Camp Lee, Virginia

11 December 1944

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

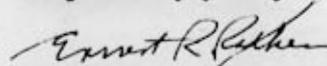
In my former communication with you relative to information concerning Pvt Arthur L. Harris and myself, I neglected in the second letter to give you the name of Pvt Harris' Company Commander.

Pvt Harris was on pass at the time and in addition his company was in the process of inactivation. His status has been changed from a company to a headquarters assignee. His commanding officer is now Col. W. W. Watson, 1st QM Tng Group, Camp Lee, Virginia.

Mrs. Bethune has made us very happy in taking such an interest in our ideas. Her intercession with you in our behalf is something for which we shall always be grateful to her.

When the idea becomes a reality it will, we are sure, give both you and Mrs. Bethune moments of great satisfaction.

Respectfully yours,



Pvt Ernest R. Rather

CC to Mrs. Bethune

For VICTORY



Copy sent to Mrs. Bethune 1-2-45



ARMY SERVICE FORCES
HEADQUARTERS CAMP LEE
CAMP LEE, VIRGINIA

OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL

17 December 1944

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

A check on the two soldiers mentioned in your recent letter shows that both men are now members of the cadre assigned to the First Quartermaster Training Group here. The duties of both are connected with Public Relations and Special Service activities.

Corporal Ernest R. Rather, ASN 36789994, 28th Tng. Co., 5th En., serves as a special correspondent for the Chicago Defender. In addition, he is preparing a pictorial book on First Training Group activities.

Private Arthur L. Harris, ASN 42040504, Headquarters, First Training Group, is on duty in the Training Aid Section at Group Headquarters, where he is given much opportunity for creative work. He is an accomplished artist and illustrator and has contributed much.

Both these soldiers have excellent records at Camp Lee and I am sure that they will continue to merit advancement and recognition of their good work.

With kindest regards and assuring you of our cooperation,
I am

Sincerely yours,

GEO. A. HORKAN
GEO. A. HORKAN,
Brigadier General, USA,
Commanding.

2 letters

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, Inc.
(Affiliated with the National Council of Women of the United States, Inc.)

1318 Vermont Avenue, Northwest
Washington 5, D.C.

Telephone: Dupont 2483

December 17, 1944

JEANETTA WELCH BROWN
Executive Secretary
Editor-in-Chief of the
Journal
SUE BAILEY THURMAN
Circulation Manager
HARRIET CURTIS HALL

DEC 18 1944

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VIVIAN CARTER MASON
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Personnel Committee
CORRINE ROBINSON
Program Committee
MAYME MASON HIGGINS
Membership Committee
MAE C. HAWES
Legal Advisers
EUNICE HUNTON CARTER

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I know you will pardon me for bringing this matter to your attention again. The young man, Private Ernest Rather from Camp Lee states, that it is necessary for the matter of his transfer from the work he is doing to the development of his project, "The Negro's part in World War #2", be given immediate attention.

You remember we talked this over very carefully the evening I was at the White House, and we still feel that this project is worthy of this type of consideration. We want you to write to the following Commanding Officers expressing your interest in this project:

For Private Ernest Rather, write Commanding Officer Charles H. Masters, Second Lt., QMC, 10th Company, Camp Lee, Va.

For Private Arthur L. Harris, write Commanding Officer Colonel W.W. Watson, Camp Lee, Va.

Sincerely yours,
Mary McLeod Bethune

Handwritten notes:
bought her
J. S. ...
King ...
- Dec 20, 44
- 19 -
W. ...
...
EP

Official Organ: "THE AFRAMERICAN WOMAN'S JOURNAL"
(A Quarterly Journal)

100

January 4, 1945

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

I am returning herewith the copy of
X Lieutenant Commander Schoenfeld's article,
which you gave to Mrs. Roosevelt. Attached
to it is the foreword which Colonel Evans
Carlson has prepared, in response to Mrs.
Roosevelt's request.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
1518 Vermont Avenue
Washington, D. C.

0

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Journal
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Circulation Manager
HARRIET CURTIS HALL

January 5, 1945

Miss Malvina Thompson
The White House
Washington, D.C.

My dear Miss Thompson:

Please may I thank you for the return of the manuscript
of Lieutenant Commander Schoenfeld and the fore word written
by Colonel Evans Carlisen which we asked Mrs. Roosevelt to
request for us.

I am very grateful.

Sincerely,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune

MMcLB/rmh

Official Organ: "THE AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMAN'S JOURNAL"
(A Quarterly Journal)

January 8, 1945

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

I am returning the letter to you from
Mr. R. R. Wright, with its enclosures.

Mrs. Roosevelt is so sorry that she
cannot attend the National Freedom Day
exercises, as she has an engagement for
that date, February 1st.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
1518 Vermont Avenue
Washington, D.C.

0

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 11, 1945

Mina Root

Miss Thompson:

Jeanetta Welch Brown said that the National Council of Negro Women has named Mrs. Roosevelt as "the woman of the year" along with 15 others. They want to honor these 16 women by a function sometime on Feb. 9, 10, 12, 13, or 14th, and would like to know which date would be convenient for Mrs. Roosevelt. If she will let them know, then they will try to get Dorothy Thompson and the others to fit their schedules so they can attend at the same time.

Co 4491

*10-7-45
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10-7-45
10-7-45*

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H-5

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 13, 1945

Miss Thompson:

Jeanetta Welch Brown has chosen Saturday, February 10, at 4:00 p.m. for the occasion which the Nat'l. Council of Negro Women are having to honor Mrs. Roosevelt and the 15 others whom they have selected as the women of the year. She will write further details.

DD

100
✓
January 15, 1945

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mrs. Roosevelt finds that she will not be here on February 16th, the date of the mass meeting sponsored by the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. I am returning Mr. C.G. Woodson's letter and Mrs. Roosevelt hopes you will tell him how much she appreciates the invitation and also how much she regrets not being able to accept it.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt .

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
1518 Vermont Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C.

0

THE
A. S. N. L. H.

The Association for the Study of Negro
Life and History

BEGINNINGS

1. Organized by Carter G. Woodson in Chicago, September 9, 1915, with George Cleveland Hall, W. B. Hartgrove, J. E. Stamps, and Alexander L. Jackson, the four out of the many invited by the founder to participate in this organization.
2. Incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia, October 2, 1915, with Carter G. Woodson, J. E. Moorland, and J. A. Bigham as trustees.
3. Brought out the first number of *THE JOURNAL OF NEGRO HISTORY*, January 1, 1916, and since that date has published this scientific magazine regularly every quarter. Complete files are available in bound or unbound form.

Headquarters

The Association for the Study of Negro Life
and History

1538 Ninth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

PURPOSES

1. To promote historical research.
2. To publish books on Negro life and history.
3. To promote the study of the Negro through clubs and schools.
4. To bring about harmony between the races by interpreting the one to the other.

PROMOTERS

1. Well-known gentlemen like Harold H. Swift, C. B. Powell, Arthur W. Mitchell, Oswald Garrison Villard, Theodore W. Noyes, Robert R. Moton, James H. Dillard, and F. D. Patterson.
2. Distinguished scholars like Roland G. Usher, Frederick L. Hoffman, Evarts B. Greene, Charles M. Andrews, H. N. Sherwood, William Renwick Riddell, Franz Boas, Charles H. Wesley, Henry J. Cadbury, F. J. Klingberg, and J. R. Angell.

ACHIEVEMENTS

1. It has directed the attention of investigators to this neglected field.
2. It has extended the circulation of *THE JOURNAL OF NEGRO HISTORY* into South America, Europe, Asia, and Africa.
3. It has published twenty-five volumes of articles and documents giving facts which are generally unknown.
4. It has produced twenty-seven monographs on Negro life and history.
5. It has organized and stimulated the studies of local clubs and classes, which have done much to change the attitude of communities toward the Negro.
6. It has collected thousands of valuable manuscripts on the Negro which have been made accessible to the public in the Library of Congress.
7. It has had thirteen young men and women trained for research in social science and for instruction in colleges and universities.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE IDEA

Directing attention to the study of the Negro as a neglected field, the Association could soon report important results. It led men to see the unreasonableness

of the claim made for superiority of race and encouraged them to arrive at their conclusions by scientific investigation. Giving such a stimulus to the reconstruction of thought, then, the Association has changed the attitude of many persons toward the Negro and other races. The Negro himself, too, has been stimulated to higher endeavor by learning from his significant record that he is not the most despised of men.

In 1922 the Association was enabled by a grant to undertake systematic research. Prior to that time its investigation had been purely voluntary. That year the Department of Research was established and a number of investigators were employed to undertake definite tasks. These researches have resulted in the publication of twenty-seven monographs embracing almost every aspect of Negro life and history. The Department of Research has recently undertaken the special task of investigating the social and economic conditions of the Negro since the Civil War, and it has given some attention to Negro Folklore and African Anthropology.

In 1926 the Association began the celebration of Negro History Week. This was made an occasion for public exercises inviting special attention to the achievements of the Negro. The thought emerged from the mind of the founder. With the cooperation of ministers, teachers and professional and business men throughout the country, the celebration proved to be an unusual success. Negro History Week has helped to arouse the people to a keener appreciation of the contribution of the Negro to civilization. Negro History Week has become "Negro History Year" in that schools are now taking up the study of the Negro as a required course. Men are now learning to think of civilization as the heritage of the centuries to which all races have made some contribution.

Owing to the demand for more service in the dissemination of information than its facilities then afforded, the Association established in 1927 an Extension Division to embrace the imparting of information by public lectures and the study of Negro Life and History by mail. This department, therefore, offers instruction given by the Association staff under the administrative supervision and control of the Association. Such an opportunity for self-improvement is widely sought by literary societies, study clubs, and other institutions for persons who have no other chance for this kind of instruction.

WHY THE NEGRO IN HISTORY?

If a race has no history, if it has no worth while tradition, it becomes a negligible factor in the thought of the world, and it stands in danger of being exterminated. The American Indian left no continuous record. He did not know the value of history; and where is he today? The Hebrew keenly appreciated the worth of tradition, as is attested by the Bible itself. In spite of world-wide persecution, therefore, he is still a great factor in the universe.

The case of the Negro may be stated concretely. For example, a man writes a book on the *New Freedom*. Some one inquires as to how he can harmonize his anti-Negro policy with his progressive doctrine. He replies that he was not thinking of the Negro when he wrote that book. An order is given for the training of all young men for military service. A Negro applies to equip himself for this duty, but he is told that the principles involved in the war concern only white men, and that Negroes will be encouraged to serve only in subordinate positions. A Negro supports the successful party in a campaign and then asks for the accustomed recognition in the personnel of the new administration, but he is told that public opinion is such that the Negro cannot be safely exalted to positions of trust in the government. A bond issue is voted to improve the facilities of education, but the Negro school is denied its share or it is permitted to receive what the white system abandons as antiquated and inadequate. A Negro is passed on the street and is shoved off into the mud; he complains or strikes back and is lynched as a desperado who attacked a gentleman.

And what if the Negro is handicapped, segregated, or lynched? According to our education and practice, if you kill one of the group, the world goes on just as well or better; for the Negro is nothing, has never been anything and never will be anything but a menace to civilization. The Negro therefore has no respect for himself, and others have the utmost contempt for him.

We call this race prejudice, and it may be thus properly named; but it is not something inherent in human nature. It is merely the logical result of tradition, the inevitable outcome of thorough instruction to the effect that the Negro has never contributed anything to the progress of mankind. The doctrine has been thoroughly drilled into the whites, and the Negroes have learned

well the lesson themselves; for many of them look upon other races as superior and accept the status of recognized inferiority.

ALL RACES MAKE CONTRIBUTIONS

The fact is, however, that one race has not accomplished any more good than any other race, for it would be contrary to the laws of nature to have one race inferior to the other. But if you leave it to the one to set forth his special virtues while disparaging those of others, it will not require many generations before all credit for human achievements will be ascribed to one particular stock. Such is the history taught the youth today.

On the other hand, just as thorough education in the belief in the inequality of races has brought the world to the cat-and-dog stage of religious, racial and political strife, so may thorough instruction in the equality of races bring about a reign of brotherhood through an appreciation of the virtues of all races, creeds and colors. In such a millennium the achievements of the Negro properly set forth will crown him as a factor in early human progress and a maker of modern civilization. He has supplied the demand for labor of a large area of our own country, he has been a conservative force in its recent economic development, he has given the nation a poetic stimulus, he has developed the most popular music of the modern era, and he has preserved in its purity the brotherhood taught by Jesus of Nazareth. In his native country, moreover, the Negro produced in ancient times a civilization contemporaneous with that of the nations of the early Mediterranean, he influenced the cultures then cast in the crucible of time, and he taught the modern world trial by jury, music by stringed instruments, the domestication of the sheep, goat and cow, and the use of iron by which science and initiative have remade the universe. Must we let this generation continue ignorant of these eloquent facts?

THE PUBLICATIONS OF THE ASSOCIATION

1. THE JOURNAL OF NEGRO HISTORY, a scientific quarterly, regularly published since January, 1916. Twenty-four volumes now available in bound or unbound form.
2. Twenty-seven monographs and reports treating almost every phase of Negro life and history, such as, *The Negro in the Reconstruction of Virginia*, *The Negro in South Carolina during the Reconstruction*, *Free*

Negro Heads of Families, Negro Owners of Slaves, The Relations between Negroes and Indians, The Controversy over the Distribution of Abolition Literature, and The Mind of the Negro Reflected in Letters.

3. Special studies of the economic and social aspects of the record of the Negro in the modern world, like *The Rural Negro, The Negro Wage Earner, The Black Man in White America, Negro Education in Alabama and The Negro Professional Man.*
4. Translations of the works of reputable foreign scholars who have made scientific studies of Negroes, such as Delafosse's *Negroes of Africa, History and Culture*, and Ramos's *The Negro in Brazil.*
5. Textbooks of Negro History, with the assistance of the Associated Publishers, such as *The Child's Story of the Negro, Negro Makers of History, The Story of the Negro Retold, and The Negro in Our History.*
6. Works of biography like Charles H. Wesley's *Richard Allen*, Sadie I. Daniel's *Women Builders*, and C. G. Woodson's *African Heroes and Heroines.*
7. Works treating in detail special contributions of the Negro like *Negro Poets and Their Poems, Negro Orators and Their Orations, Negro Musicians and Their Music*, and *The African Background Outlined, or Handbook for the Study of the Negro.*
8. Special service in seeking abroad rare books on the Negro in order to facilitate the study of the race at important centers in the United States.

BRANCHES OF THE ASSOCIATION

For the expansion of the work the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History has organized a number of branches. Others may be established only where the national office believes that the interest is sufficient to keep them alive.

The purposes of a branch are:

1. To save the records of the Negro and send them to the central office in Washington, D. C., where they are being assorted and classified and kept under fire-proof protection to be used by investigators from all parts of the world.
2. To write the life histories of the "near great" but useful Negroes of whom editors and authors take no account, and to publish the records of local institutions which the "near great" established.
3. To promote the actual study of the Negro in a club or class proceeding according to a definite outline

and under the supervision of the Director of the Association.

4. To secure the cooperation of a number of persons who will learn to tell intelligently to children in schools and churches interesting stories of distinguished Negroes who have achieved things worth while as promoters of business, professional men, teachers, and ministers.

To become a permanently organized branch requires at least ten persons, each paying the active membership fee of \$3.00. It is much better to start with a larger membership. Fifty cents of this fee is kept by the local branch to pay its expenses. The remaining \$2.50 is sent to the national office. For this fee, each member receives *THE JOURNAL OF NEGRO HISTORY* for a year. Branches have also sustaining members who pay the Association \$1.00 annually and receive *The Negro History Bulletin*. The branch, as such, moreover, is entitled to call upon the Director for such supervision of study as may be given by mail. This, however, must not be confused with the individual instruction by correspondence, offered by the Home Study Department of the Association, which requires fees for its course in Negro Life and History.

JUNIOR SOCIETIES

To root more deeply the work of the Association in the mind of the youth, junior societies are now being organized in connection with the local branches. For such societies the following plan has been agreed upon:

1. The junior societies shall be organized in churches, in junior and senior high schools, and among such other groups as may become interested.
2. In cities or communities where chapters for the study of Negro life and history already exist the organization of the junior branch shall be under the supervision of the president of the local branch or someone designated by him.
3. In places where no branch exists the junior society or societies shall be organized and supervised by someone interested in Negro history. This person shall be designated by the home office.
4. Each junior member shall pay an annual fee of fifty cents (50c), which shall be used to purchase an outline for study, for instruction, and for the dissemination of information.
5. Juvenile books presenting in simple form the achievements of the Negro are desirable literature which may be extensively used by the junior branches.

NATIONAL OFFICERS

MARY McLEOD BETHUNE,
President

Executive Council

Mary McLeod Bethune
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Carter G. Woodson
Roseoe Dunjee
John M. Gandy
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Treasurer, A. S. N. L. H.,

1538 Ninth Street, N. W.,

Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I enclose herewith my { check
money order } for \$ _____

to promote the work of the A. S. N. L. H.

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A.S.N.L.H.

THE NEGRO HISTORY BULLETIN

The new educational publication designed to promote the study of the Negro among the youth by simplifying what is made too difficult for the average reader in books now available. All articles are so written as to be read easily by the high school student, and many of them are on the elementary level. These contributions, however, often present facts not generally known and will interest almost anybody.

Published Monthly
Except in July, August, and September

**The Association for the Study of
Negro Life and History, Inc.**

1538 NINTH ST., N. W.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

The Negro History Bulletin

THE MAKE-UP

The size of *The Negro History Bulletin* is 8½ x 11 inches, about the size of the average popular magazine, wide enough to carry three columns of matter like that of such periodicals. Each issue contains 24 pages. The publication is well illustrated, but it carries no advertising. The aim is to make it conform to the requirements of a school magazine.

THE PLAN

The matter published in *The Negro History Bulletin* is worked out both logically and chronologically. Seasonal topics offering opportunities to emphasize what the Negro has done are noticed, and national holidays observed to celebrate such deeds are given special attention. The nine issues of the magazine, beginning with October, however, deal mainly with special achievements of the Negro and constitute a unit for the year.

THE FEATURES

The outstanding feature of *The Negro History Bulletin* is its simplified language. High-sounding phrases and difficult terms used by writers give place in this periodical to words which children of even the fifth grade may understand. The Association employs an expert in children's literature to re-write every article submitted before it is published. Another important feature is that all historical accounts, feature stories, and biographical sketches are illustrated.

The subject matter may be otherwise thus summarized:

1. Sketches of distinguished Negroes born during the month.
2. Brief accounts of the Negroes' white friends whose birthdays fall within the month.
3. The discussion of important events which took place during the month.
4. Original productions of children.
5. Reports of activities in the schools.
6. History news.
7. A question-and-answer column.
8. Notes on important books published.
9. The book of the month.

RATES

The subscription fee is \$1.00 a year or 15 cents a copy. A subscription may begin at any time. Back numbers are usually available.

At least five hundred copies of each issue will be reserved for binding in order that persons who are desirous of securing them in this form will have this opportunity even during subsequent years. The price of such bound volumes is \$2.15 each. Volumes I, II, III, IV, V, VI and VII in bound form are now available.

Managing Editor of *The Negro History Bulletin*.
1528 Ninth St., N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I desire to subscribe to *The Negro History Bulletin*. I enclose \$1.00 for a year.

Respectfully yours,

Name

Street and number.....

P. O. address.....

**Why You Should Subscribe to
*The Journal of Negro History***

1. You will always have on hand ready information as to what the Negro has contributed to civilization.
2. You will thereby aid the movement to preserve the records of one-eighth of the population of the world.
3. You will also assist in giving the misinformed public an opportunity to learn the whole truth about the Negro.
4. You cannot obtain these facts from other publications for the reason that what most writers are now saying about the Negro is too controversial to be truthful.
5. You will find its scholarly current articles decidedly helpful in the teaching of history.
6. You will have excellent source material in the numerous documents appearing quarterly therein.
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8. You cannot obtain for four dollars a year any other one-hundred-page quarterly magazine so well-printed and containing such valuable information.

The Journal of Negro History
1538 Ninth Street, N. W.
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*1538 Ninth Street, N. W.
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volume, except Volumes I and II which sell for \$7.50 each.**

One Dollar Sustaining Membership Drive

The A. S. N. L. H.,
1538 Ninth St., N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

I, _____, herewith transmit my annual sustaining membership dues of \$ _____ in the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, Inc., 50 cents of which is for a year's subscription to *The Negro History Bulletin*.

Name _____

Address _____

What the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, Inc., Does

Publishes magazines

Researches in Negro History

Directs studies in clubs and schools

Promotes the home study of the Negro by mail

Produces texts on the Negro for schools and colleges

Collects and preserves the valuable documents of Negro History

Supplies libraries with special collections of rare books on the Negro

Educates promising and enterprising young men for service in historical research

100
January 27, 1945.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

I have your letter of January 23rd, and am sorry but Mrs. Roosevelt already has too many engagements scheduled and she had to decline the invitation extended to her to address the Annual Forum on World Affairs, which has been arranged by the Brooklyn Section of the National Council of Jewish Women.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
National Council of Negro Women, Inc
1318 Vermont Avenue, N. W.
Washington (5), D. C.

VDS

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, Inc.
(Affiliated with the National Council of Women of the United States, Inc.)

1318 Vermont Avenue, Northwest
Washington 5, D.C.

Telephone: Dupont 2483

mt
1/27/45

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Editor-in-Chief of the
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SUE BAILEY THURMAN
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Historian
MARY CHURCH TERRELL

January 23, 1945

Miss Malvina Thompson
The White House
Washington, D.C.

My dear Miss Thompson:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter sent to me by the
Brooklyn Section of the National Council of Jewish Women,
together with some material on their Forum Series.

You will note that they are desirous that Mrs.
Roosevelt speak for them on March, first. Please see if
she can do this. Brooklyn is a very interesting place and
needs Mrs. Roosevelt. I hope that she can find a way to
go to them.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune

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MMoLB/mmh
Encl/

Official Organ: "THE AFRAMERICAN WOMAN'S JOURNAL"
(A Quarterly Journal)

C
O
P
Y

January 17, 1945

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

May we take this opportunity of expressing our happiness at the inauguration of your husband, our deeply beloved president. We pray God will grant him health to carry out the manifold duties confronting him.

Because we feel that too many Americans are either apathetic or antagonistic to the United Nations Plan- perhaps ignorant of its aims- we have dedicated the 9th Annual Forum on World Affairs to be held on March 1st entirely to the presentation of the plan. The attached programs are self-explanatory.

Among the forty cooperating agencies working with us to make this a truly community project are many prominent national and local organizations. They represent civic, religious and racial groups. Our annual forums attract about 2,000 people and are equally representative of our population. The purpose- to arouse interest in American foreign policy.

To end the forum on a note of optimism, we have listed "Universal Bill of Rights". Unless this topic is handled humanely and expertly, the Forum, we fear, will fall short of its aims. There has not been enough emphasis placed upon the importance of the individual when discussing the plan. The individual must be assured that regardless of his birthplace, his color or his religion the planning is done for him all over the world.

May we implore you, if your plans will permit, to address us on this all-important and vital topic? We understand the fullness of your program, but also we know how deep your interest is in human welfare- which also is the keynote of the Forum.

With all good wishes for the success of the administration,

We are,

Sincerely yours,

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN, INC.



BROOKLYN SECTION

285 SCHERMERHORN STREET, BROOKLYN, 17, NEW YORK
TELEPHONE TRIANGLE 5-9321

January 17th
1945

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THE NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE
THE GREATER NEW YORK FUND

Dear Dr. Bethune:

One of our staunch cooperating agencies working closely with us to make the 9th Annual Forum on World Affairs a truly representative project in Brooklyn is Mrs. Margaret V. Brown of the Women Voters Council. She requested me to communicate with you in behalf of the Forum.

The attached preliminary programs will give you the theme, sub-titles and speakers. As you will notice the speakers who have agreed to participate so far are all well qualified to talk on the assigned topics and are very prominent. Too many Americans are either indifferent or antagonistic to the United Nations Plan for Peace and Security - or ignorant of its aims; therefore, the Forum Committee felt it was its patriotic duty to strengthen the hand of our State Department in its efforts to educate the people along these lines, and our foreign policy. Hence, it devoted the entire program to discussion of world planning.

The highlight of the Forum is the last topic - "Universal Bill of Human Rights". Unless it is expertly handled by some very outstanding person, we fear that the purpose of the Forum may be lost. We are anxious to have the listening audience and the thousands who will read the many newspaper accounts feel that no matter where man abides, whatever is his religion or political belief, the color of his skin, or the place of his birth the planning is for all, to give dignity to man and be an encouragement to help build a better world.

Our forums annually attract nearly 2,000 people representing all shades of opinion and interests and is the only educational project of its kind in Brooklyn.

Mrs. Brown believes as we do that Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt is the most logical person to talk on this subject. Therefore, may I implore you to use your good offices to urge Mrs. Roosevelt to help us by accepting our invitation? We are writing to her today. Copy of her letter is attached.

MOTHERS' HEALTH CENTERS
JEANNETTE L. ARONS SCHOLARSHIP FUND
JUNIORS — GIRL SCOUTS

SERVICE TO FOREIGN BORN
WAR ACTIVITIES — RED CROSS UNIT
THRIFT SHOP

SOCIAL LEGISLATION
CONTEMPORARY JEWISH AFFAIRS
WORLD AFFAIRS — FORUM

RHODA SCHAAP COUNCIL HOUSE — 227 BRIGHTON BEACH AVENUE — BRIGHTON BEACH

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN, INC.



BROOKLYN SECTION

285 SCHERMERHORN STREET, BROOKLYN, 17, NEW YORK
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Dr. Bethune Page 2

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GRACE GROSSMANN

We are also enclosing copies of programs of past Forums and you can see from them the type of Forums we sponsor.

We pray that you will be successful in our behalf.

Altho a little late, may we extend the season's greetings?

Sincerely yours,

Sara W. Schindler

Mrs. Samuel Schindler

Fannie Freeman

Mrs. Lawrence Freeman
Chairmen of Forum

P.S. We have not decided just where to send Mrs. Roosevelt's letter and it will therefore be held up for a day or two. However, the appeal will be similar to yours. However, a copy of the letter will be duly sent to you.

SWS

AFFILIATED WITH

FEDERATION FOR THE SUPPORT OF
JEWISH PHILANTHROPIC SOCIETIES
THE NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE
THE GREATER NEW YORK FUND

Dr. Mary McCleod Bethune
National Council of Negro Women, Inc.,
1318 Vermont Av., N.W.
Washington, D. C.

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BROOKLYN SECTION

285 SCHERMERHORN STREET, BROOKLYN, 17, NEW YORK
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January
17th, 1945

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JEWISH PHILANTHROPIC SOCIETIES
THE NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE
THE GREATER NEW YORK FUND

Dear Dr. Bethune:

We are writing you for permission to join with the forty cooperating agencies to help us in making the 9th Annual Forum on World Affairs outstanding and to achieve its purpose of educating the people of our community and its environs in American foreign policy.

May we have the pleasure, also, of extending an invitation to sit on the platform as our guest?

Your name and that of the organization will appear on subsequent programs. If you would use the enclosed program on your bulletin board and if you will clear the date we would appreciate it very much. Also we can supply you with a number of the programs to be used in your mailings to the metropolitan area.

Sincerely yours,

Sara W. Schindler

Mrs. Samuel Schindler

Fannie Freeman

Mrs. Lawrence Freeman

Chairmen of Forum

Enclosed is copy of letter to Mrs. Roosevelt.



MOTHERS' HEALTH CENTERS
JEANNETTE L. ARONS SCHOLARSHIP FUND
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3. 1. 10
THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, Inc.

(Affiliated with the National Council of Women of the United States, Inc.)

1318 Vermont Avenue, Northwest
Washington 5, D.C.

Telephone: Dupont 2483

February 2, 1945

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Editor-in-Chief of the
Journal
SUE BAILEY THURMAN

Circulation Manager
HARRIET CURTIS HALL

Mrs Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D C

My dear Mrs Roosevelt:

We are sending you some last minute information
regarding the reception February 10 at our
Headquarters.

We are requesting that you plan to arrive about
3:15 P.M., so that you may have the opportunity
to meet the other honored guests.

At 5:00 P.M., we are presenting a brief program
on the theme, "Women Building Better Race Relations."
Tributes will be brought by outstanding women.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune
President

Official Organ: "THE AFRICAN WOMAN'S JOURNAL"
(A Quarterly Journal)

The National Council of Negro Women, Inc.
1318 Vermont Avenue, N. W.
Washington 5, D. C. Columbia 4491

FOR RELEASE 3 P. M., Jan. 4, 1945

OUTSTANDING WOMEN OF 1944 NAMED

White and Negro Women Included on List of Outstanding Women

At a press conference today, Mary McLeod Bethune, announced for the National Council of Negro Women, a roster of outstanding women for 1944. Mrs. Bethune in announcing these nominations expressed concern for the lack of recognition for the achievements of both white and Negro women as reflected in the various national polls already announced. "With out men at war," said Mrs. Bethune, "more women than ever have taken up responsibilities in every field of endeavor and have made significant contributions to American life."

The National Council nominated Eleanor Roosevelt as the Woman Of The Year. "Her varied activities in the field of human relations, her courage, her energy, and her deep concern for national and international unity have given inspiration to women all over the world," said Mrs. Bethune. The following women were named in addition to Mrs. Roosevelt.

Anna Arnold Hedgeman, Executive Secretary of the National Committee for the Establishment of a Permanent F. E. P. C., for her dynamic leadership in the struggle to secure passage of the bill for a permanent Fair Employment Practice Commission with enforcement powers,

Mary S. Ingraham, President, National Board, Young Women's Christian Associations of the United States, for her courageous leadership in the development of sound interracial practice within the Y. W. C. A.,

Mabel K. Staupers, Executive Secretary of the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses, for her persistent efforts to secure the full utilization of the services of the Negro nurse in the armed forces,

Alice T. McLean, Founder-President, American Women's Voluntary Services, for her contribution to the morale of the men and women in the armed forces through her visit to the war theatres and the expansion on a national basis of the exceedingly effective program of the A. W. V. S.,

Daisy Lumpkin, Field Secretary, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, in building in 1944 the largest membership enrollment in the history of the N. A. A. C. P., and for her effective fight for equality of opportunity for all minorities,

Katherine Shryver, Executive Secretary of the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax, for her statesmanlike leadership in the legislative and educational campaign to abolish the poll tax,

Dorothy Thompson, columnist, for her brilliant analysis and presentation of major issues in the political campaign of 1944,

Levonía H. Brown, Founder-Lt. General of the Women's Army for National Defense, for her creative leadership in developing the program of the Women's Army for National Defense,

Lillian Smith, editor, "South Today," for her fearless presentation of the effects on human behavior of the mores of the South through the authorship of "Strange Fruit,"

Bettye Murphy Phillips, newspaperwoman, Baltimore Afro-American, for qualifying for certification by the War Department as the first Negro woman war correspondent,

(more)

National Council of Negro Women, Inc.

For Release 3 P. M., Jan. 4, 1945

Lena Horne, singer, for her resolute stand on refusing to appear on radio, screen or stage in stereotyped Negro roles,

Dorothy J. Bellanca, International Vice President of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, for her effective assistance in the mobilization of women industrial workers for citizenship responsibility with emphasis on registration and participation in local and national elections in 1944,

Thomasina W. Johnson, Legislative Representative, National Non-Partisan Council on Public Affairs, for her successful efforts towards the inclusion and integration of Negro Women in the WAVES,

Pauline Redmond Coggs, Executive Secretary of the Washington Urban League, for her forthright fight for housing facilities for Negroes and racial tolerance in the District of Columbia,

Jeanetta Welch Brown, Executive Secretary of the National Council of Negro Women, for initiating a coordinating committee composed of Labor, Catholic, Protestant and Jewish national women's organizations for the elimination of race hatred and segregation; and for developing the program for the launching of the first liberty ship named in honor of a Negro woman, the S. S. Harriet Tubman, now an active cargo vessel of war.

Mrs. Bethune emphasized that this list is a symbol of the accomplishments of women throughout the nation in the war year 1944. She paid tribute to the women leaders of great religious movements, to the women in industrial plants, to the women in the armed forces and to the women who carry increased burdens as wives, daughters and mothers all over the nation. The National Council of Negro Women, through Mrs. Bethune, urged that local communities aid in finding those brave, loyal women behind the scenes who quietly and unassumingly have earned recognition.

End

A G E N D A

March 24, 1945

11:00 A. M. to 1:00 P.M.

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Presiding

- I. Purpose of Meeting
- II. Historical Background of the
National Council of Negro Women, Inc.
- III. Present Program
- IV. Immediate Objectives
- V. General Discussion

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority
Daughter Elks-Grand Temple, IBPOEW
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority
Iota Phi Lambda Sorority
Ladies Auxiliary to the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters
Lambda Kappa Mu Sorority
National Achievement Clubs
National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses
National Beauty Culturists' League, Inc.
National Jeanes Association
National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa
Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority
The Mme. C. J. Walker Manufacturing Co., Inc.
Women's Auxiliary National Medical Association
Woman's Home & Foreign Missionary Society (A. M. E. Zion Church)
Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society (A. M. E. Church)
Women's Army for National Defense
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority

METROPOLITAN COUNCILS *

Atlanta Metropolitan Council
Baltimore Metropolitan Council
Chicago Metropolitan Council
Cincinnati Metropolitan Council
Daytona Beach Metropolitan Council
Detroit Metropolitan Council
Kansas City Metropolitan Council
Los Angeles Metropolitan Council
New Jersey Metropolitan Council
New York Metropolitan Council
Pittsburgh Metropolitan Council
St. Louis Metropolitan Council
Washington Metropolitan Council

*Several other Councils in local communities are in the process of organization.

THE COUNCIL

The Council is an apex of a superstructure composed of these national member organizations, representing the interpreting and coordinating channel for each of them, but never in any sense a competitor.

In the combined membership of these affiliated organizations and Metropolitan Councils, the Council has a total membership of more than 800,000 women.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

In December, 1943, the Board of Directors and Executive Board in joint session purchased Headquarters at 1318 Vermont Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C. The Building was made possible by an initial gift of an anonymous friend, and continuously gifts and contributions in money, furnishing and equipment have continued to come in.

In October 1945, our House was dedicated to the united service of the womanhood of the world, regardless of race, creed or color. A symbol of the living democracy we are talking and preaching about.

THE CHALLENGE

Today, all thinking women recognize that we stand at a "crossroad" in the history of the world. The human problems we face incident to the war and postwar era that are unfolding daily have special significance for women of all groups. Current world conditions and social conditions at home call for intelligent planning and concerted action. Women must unite their efforts and strengthen their courage to play a significant role in the future of America and the world. Through a more efficient use of the Council, as an instrument through which we can coordinate and unify our efforts we can make more effective our contribution toward the building of peace, freedom and security for all people.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

ORGANIZATION

The National Council of Negro Women, Incorporated, was organized in December, 1935, as a non-partisan organization by Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune and a group of women who realized the need for united and cooperative group action among Negro women. It is affiliated with the National Council of Women of the United States and, through this affiliation, with the International Council of Women of the World.

The National Council faces now the problem confronting six and a half million American Negro women and realizes as never before that our various racial groups must achieve a united front at home if democracy in action and practice is to be made effective in America and throughout the world.

PURPOSES To disseminate information on the joint activities of Negro and white women and on those issues that vitally affect the lives of Negro women. To interpret the problems, the needs and aspirations of Negro women to themselves and to the community. To educate Negro women for, and to stimulate them to take full advantage of, all democratic rights and privileges. To build good will and mutual understanding through programs designed to promote better intra-racial, interracial and international relations.

The National Council of Negro Women maintains regular contacts with Negro women in communities throughout the country by its national affiliates and their local branches organized into Metropolitan Councils. It embraces organizations from church, fraternal, industrial, professional, educational, and civic groups. Its membership is open to any woman who joins in its purposes and supports its activities.

National Council of Negro Women, Inc.

WHO'S

WHO

IN

THE

NCNW

The National Council of Negro Women consists of thirty affiliated organizations, including eighteen national Negro women's organizations and twelve Metropolitan Councils, which are united in their determination to obtain and maintain human rights.

These affiliated organizations have specific programs carried out through their chapters and subsidiary organizations. These national organizations meeting in yearly conventions and conferences apply a critical yard stick in an analysis of their past year's performance, chart extended and more intensive emphasis on their major and continuing national projects and adopt new program objectives for the succeeding year.

Each organization is carrying out a distinctive project or projects as its national activity. Throughout the country, the branches of the affiliates by a variety of methods carry out the national program of their organizations, thus accomplishing their objectives by the power of their combined membership. Many impressive achievements have been made by these organized women's groups in their struggle to secure a more equitable status for the American Negro in the economic, educational, political, social and cultural life of America.

As a member of the National Council of Negro Women, these national organizations are united as one group, thinking, planning and taking action together for they believe and know that in unity lies the strength needed to accomplish the objectives of all. The extended and enlarged resources of the Council are made available to member organizations in furtherance of their individual programs. The strength of these member organizations, united and resolute, is an articulated challenge and a living force for the extension of democracy in America.

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

- ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY
Mrs. Beulah T. Whitby, Basileus
358 Josephine Street, Detroit, Michigan
- DAUGHTER ELKS—Grand Temple, IBPOEW
Mrs. Elizabeth R. Gordon, Grand Ruler
406 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.
- DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY
Mrs. Mae Wright Downs, President
Post Office Box 121, Sewell, New Jersey
- IOTA PHI LAMBDA SORORITY
Mrs. Lola M. Parker, President
5853 Calumet Avenue, Chicago, Illinois
- LADIES' AUXILIARY TO THE BROTHERHOOD OF SLEEPING CAR PORTERS
Mrs. Halena Wilson, President
3456 So. State Street, Chicago 16, Illinois
- LAMBDA KAPPA MU SORORITY
Miss Laura Valdes, Basileus
3820 Paulding Ave., Bronx 67, N. Y.
- NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT CLUBS
Mrs. Alma Illery, President
2839½ Wylie Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa.
- NATIONAL ASSOCIATION COLORED GRADUATE NURSES
Mrs. Frances F. Gaines, R.N., President
649 East 50th Place, Chicago, Ill.
- NAT'L BEAUTY CULTURISTS LEAGUE, Inc.
Mrs. Cordelia Greene Johnson, President
57 Belmont Ave., Jersey City, N. J.
- NATIONAL JEANES ASSOCIATION
Mrs. Mayme L. Copeland, President
302 East 4th Street, Hopkinsville, Ky.
- NAT'L SORORITY OF PHI DELTA KAPPA
Mrs. Gertrude Robinson, Basileus
596 Edgecombe Ave., New York 32, N.Y.
- SIGMA GAMMA RHO SORORITY
Mrs. Ethel R. Smith, President
5044 South Parkway, Chicago, Illinois
- MME. C. J. WALKER MFG. CO., INC.
Mrs. Marjorie S. Joyner, President
4703 South Parkway, Chicago 15, Ill.
- WOMEN'S AUXILIARY TO NATIONAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
Mrs. J. Eugene Alexander, President
328 Flint Street, Charlotte, N. C.
- WOMAN'S HOME & FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY
Mrs. M. Anna Hauser, President
202 South West St., Salisbury, N. C.
- WOMAN'S HOME & FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY
Mrs. Lucy M. Hughes, President
211 N. 53rd St., Philadelphia 39, Pa.
- WOMEN'S ARMY FOR NAT'L DEFENSE
Lt. Gen. Lovonia H. Brown
6532 St. Lawrence Ave., Chicago 37, Ill.
- ZETA PHI BETA SORORITY
Mrs. Blanche J. Thompson, Basileus
4345 So. Michigan Ave., Chicago 15, Ill.

METROPOLITAN COUNCILS

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Mrs. Julia Pate Borders, President
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- CHICAGO METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
Mrs. Eleanor C. Dailey, President
4758 S. Parkway, Chicago, Illinois
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Miss Ange Mc Neel, President
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- PITTSBURGH METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
Mrs. Florence Ball Jones, President
7402 Susquehanna Street, Pittsburgh, Pa.
- ST. LOUIS METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
Mrs. W. C. Bridges, President
47 Lewis Place, St. Louis, Missouri
- WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
Miss Romaine Brown, President
1835 Vermont Avenue, N. W., Washington, D.C.

PUBLICATIONS

AFRAMEERICAN WOMAN'S JOURNAL
(Quarterly)

TELEFACT
(Monthly)

National Council of Negro Women, Inc.

Mary McLeod Bethune, Founder-President
1318 Vermont Avenue, N. W.
Washington 5, D.C.

National Council of Negro Women, Inc.

THE PLEDGE

"To make a lasting contribution to all that is finest and best in America, so that her heritage of freedom and progress will be infinitely enriched by the integration of Negroes into the economic, social, cultural, civic and political life of this country and thus achieve the glorious destiny of a true and unfettered democracy."

NCNW

PREFACE

The National Council of Negro Women, Inc. was organized in 1935 when the blight of national unemployment crushed the hopes of the youth of the nation and the morale of the people had suffered a serious setback. The intensity of the needs of the times called for an informed and sensitive public opinion, for unified and direct action and consistent collaboration and cooperation of all organizations concerned with the economic, educational, social, cultural and political patterns of the country and their effect upon human welfare. The rise and ever increasing recognition of the power and place of collective action compelled organized groups to pool their strength and resources for the struggle against privilege and entrenched autocracy. A number of Negro women's organizations, aware of the significance and implications of their times, joined together as a single unit and resolved to project the combined strength of their membership to meet the bitter and unparalleled challenges of the day.

PURPOSE

The National Council of Negro Women carries out a four-fold program, i.e.:

1. To collect, interpret and disseminate information concerning the activities of women;
2. To develop competent and courageous leadership among Negro women and affect their integration and that of all Negro people into the political, economic, educational, cultural and social life of their communities and the nation;
3. To create and maintain interracial and intercultural understanding and unity;

4. To provide a channel and articulation for the millions of Negro women of this country in their struggle for opportunity and equality.

This program of service is carried out through research activities, publications, special projects, information service, public speakers bureau, radio programs, educational conferences, study groups, etc.

The National Council of Negro Women now has thirty affiliated organizations consisting of national women's organizations and Metropolitan Councils. Women who will accept responsibility for the program of the Council may become life members. The member organizations are:

- ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY
- DAUGHTER ELKS -- GRAND TEMPLE, IBPOEW
- DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY
- IOTA PHI LAMBDA SORORITY
- LADIES AUXILIARY TO THE BROTHERHOOD OF SLEEPING CAR PORTERS
- LAMBDA KAPPA MU SORORITY

- NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT CLUBS
- NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COLORED GRADUATE NURSES
- NATIONAL BEAUTY CULTURISTS' LEAGUE, INC.

- NATIONAL JEANES ASSOCIATION
- NATIONAL SORORITY OF PHI DELTA KAPPA
- SIGMA GAMMA RHO SORORITY

- THE MME. C. J. WALKER MANUFACTURING CO., INC.
- WOMEN'S AUXILIARY NATIONAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
- WOMAN'S HOME & FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY, (A.M.E. Zion Church)

- WOMAN'S HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY, (A.M.E. Church)
- WOMEN'S ARMY FOR NATIONAL DEFENSE
- ZETA PHI BETA SORORITY

METROPOLITAN COUNCILS

ATLANTA METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
CHICAGO METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
CINCINNATI METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
DAYTONA BEACH METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
DETROIT METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
KANSAS CITY METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
LOS ANGELES METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
NEW JERSEY METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
NEW YORK METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
PITTSBURGH METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
ST. LOUIS METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

The Council is affiliated and actively working with the following organizations:

National Council of Women of the United States
Women's Interest Section of the War Department
Women's Advisory Committee of the Department
of Labor

National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax
Committee on Participation of Women in Post-
War Planning

Children's Advisory Committee of the United
Nations Relief Administration

Consumer Clearing House Committee

National Council of Scientific, Professional, Art
and White Collar Organizations

Pan-American Liaison Committee of Women's
Organizations

National Council of Negro Women, Inc.

Mary McLeod Bethune, Founder-President

1318 Vermont Avenue, N. W.
Washington 5, D.C.

100
February 19, 1945.

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

It has been my pleasure to work with you for many years and so I join in sending you this letter for the book which your friends are going to present to you on Mary McLeod Bethune's Day at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical College.

I wish I could be on hand on March 2nd to tell you how much I think your leadership has meant to your own people and how much I think it has done for the white people of this nation as a whole.

I hope that the day is not very far distant when we will all work together without regard to race or creed for the benefit of mankind and whatever we do, your name will be honored as one of those who helped bring about this good will among men.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
c/o Mrs. O. B. Moore, Chairman
Committee on Arrangements
Florida Agricultural and Mechanical College
Tallahassee, Florida.

VDS

Mrs Dow

To me or Mrs Stalun
have anything on a
date with Mrs Bethune
on Feb 10th at 4 pm

It is to be at her
club house in
case we have no
details

212
Mrs Bechtone wants to ¹⁰⁰
know if you decided
to go to Cleveland for
women who speak to
you at Club House

Miss Don
to print go
Co 4491

Please call Mrs
Bechtone & say
Mrs R. can't go

Phoned
2/2/45
D.D.

100

February 26, 1945

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mrs. Roosevelt asks if you know anything about Richard Mansfield, about whom Mr. O. L. Elliott writes to her in the attached letter. She would appreciate any information you can give her, with the return of Mr. Elliott's letter.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
1518 Vermont Avenue
Washington, D.C.

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THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, Inc.
(Affiliated with the National Council of Women of the United States, Inc.)

1318 Vermont Avenue, Northwest
Washington 5, D.C.

Telephone: Dupont 2483

MARY McLEOD BETHUNE
Founder and President

First Vice-President
VIVIAN CARTER MASON

Second Vice-President
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Program Committee
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Membership Committee
MAE C. HAWES

Legal Advisors
EUNICE HUNTON CARTER

13 February 1946

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I made a promise to these people during the Campaign that I would try to get a government contract for them, if it was at all possible. I am sending you this letter on this unique flour mill, for I am most desirous for its early success.

The mill is located at Morris, Illinois and has a 100,000 pound daily capacity flour mill, under lease and purchase option to a syndicate of my group.

This mill produces a natural high vitamin wheat germ flour not duplicated by another existing flour mill at this time. A specification covering its product could be "Natural high vitamin wheat germ flour, not exceeding 75% extraction. Retaining in excess of 80% fat content of wheat from which milled and without later rancidity. Superior nutritionally to present flour enriched from synthetic vitamin sources."

Dr. George W. Prince, 6 E. Garfield Blvd., Chicago, Illinois, is chairman of the Morris City Mills Syndicate, which controls this plant. He and his group are particularly anxious that they secure a government order for the major portion of a year's output from their flour mill. Interest in this project grew out of the intense desire of the late George Washington Carver to see a group of colored Americans successfully own and operate this flour mill as the first important step in sharing in American production.

Dr. Anton J. Carlson, president of the American Society for the Advancement of Science, Chairman Emeritus of the Department of Physiology of the University of Chicago, endorses this flour and says-" there is also no question in my mind that any individual or group of individuals who promote this type of milling and the use of this type of flour is doing a great service to our fellow citizens."

Official Organ: "THE AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMAN'S JOURNAL"
(A Quarterly Journal)

JEANETTA WELCH BROWN
Executive Secretary

Editor-in-Chief of the
Journal
SUE BAILEY THURMAN

Circulation Manager
HARRIET CURTIS HALL

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
February 13, 1945
Page 2.

I wrote you sometime ago about this mill and sent to you some printed materials to read about it. In accordance with our recent telephone conversation, I am requesting that you aid us in this instance so that some of the millions of sacks of flour now being purchased by various agencies and shipped all over the world be secured from this mill. If they are able to get this government order the smaller war plants agency will assist them.

May I count on your support in this matter? With your help we feel there will be no further delay in securing an order which will insure in a very definite way this most worthy project.

Sincerely,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune

MMLB/mnh

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 19, 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. BARNES:

Mrs. Roosevelt asks if the
Army or Navy could try this?

Malvina C. Thompson
Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
WASHINGTON

February 26, 1945

*copy sent
Mrs. B. T.
3/2/45*

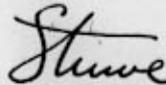
James M. Barnes, Esq.
Administrative Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Jim:

I am returning the letter dated February 13, 1945 to Mrs. Roosevelt from the National Council of Negro Women, Inc. As I indicated to you in our telephone conversation of the other day, it will be very difficult for us to write up a set of specifications which would be applicable only to the flour produced by the Council's mill. It has been our policy to write specifications which will enable the largest possible number of suppliers to submit prices on products to meet the Navy's requirements. I think it would be most unwise to make an exception in this case.

I am enclosing, however, a copy of the Navy's present specification for wheat flour. At present all flour for both the Army and Navy is procured under contracts written by the Quartermaster Corps of the Army. If the mill operated by the Council of Negro Women, Inc. desires to bid competitively under these specifications, I shall be pleased to ask the Quartermaster General to give the mill an opportunity to submit a bid for flour.

Sincerely yours,



H. Struve Hensel

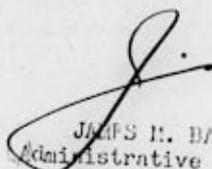
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 1, 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR:

MISS MALVINA C. THOMPSON

Attached hereto is the letter from the
Honorable H. Strive Hensel in regard to
the letter from the National Council of
Negro Women, Inc. This is self explanatory.


JAMES H. BARNES,
Administrative Assistant
to the President.

*Send letter to Mrs. Williams
with the letter and send
copy of letter to Mrs. Williams*

March 2, 1945.

100

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter with its enclosures, addressed to Mr. Barnes by the Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

Mrs. Roosevelt asks if this mill could meet Navy specifications?

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
National Council of Negro Women, Inc.
1318 Vermont Avenue, N. W.
Washington (5), D. C.

VDS

BETHUNE-COOKMAN COLLEGE

Mary McLeod Bethune, President Emeritus

DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA

JAMES A. COLSTON, President
CHAS. B. PRETTYMAN, Chairman
Executive Committee of the Trustee Board
BENJAMIN L. MITCHELL, Secretary-Treasurer

186
March 7, 1945.

Mrs. Malvina C. Thompson,
Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Thompson,

May I thank you for your letter of
February 28, concerning Reverend H. L. Hawthorne,
Director, The Negro Welfare Association, Route 1,
Box 386, Beaumont, Texas.

I regret to state that I do not know
Mr. Hawthorne, nor am I familiar with the Negro
Welfare Association of Beaumont, Texas. Please
hold this matter in abeyance until I can make some
investigation.

Very truly yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
Mary McLeod Bethune.

MMB:M

100

February 28, 1945.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

Reverend H. L. Hawthorne, Director,
The Negro Welfare Association, Route 1, Box
386, Beaumont, Texas, has sent Mrs. Roosevelt
some literature for plans to erect a National
living Memorial for Negro boys who have fought
and died in this and other wars.

Mrs. Roosevelt wonders if you know
anything about Mr. Hawthorne and his organiza-
tion?

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
National Council of Negro Women
1318 Vermont Avenue, N. W.
Washington (5), D. C.

VDS

Pioneers of Three Outstanding Projects, to Better Race Relations in Beaumont

Rev. H. L. Hawthorne
Founder and Director

Miss Lula Hawthorne
Social Work

Mrs. Lillie Smith
Secretary

C. H. D. Fleming
Treasurer

Mrs. H. E. Jones
Publicity

The Negro Welfare Association

Organized January 2, 1933

Phone 12744 - Rt. 1, Box 386

BEAUMONT, TEXAS

Feb 10, 1945

*ack
2/25/45*

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Dr. J. S. Douglas
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Mrs. Dina Folsom
House Committee

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M. G. Thames
Albert Shepherd
D. G. Shepherd
H. T. Duperier
Mrs. J. F. Keith
Miss Martha Baker

FEB 20 1945

Mrs Franklin D Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D C

My dear Mrs Roosevelt:

Knowing your interest in all people of our country and of your special interest in our minority group, I am sending you some literature for our plans of effecting a National living Memorial for our Negro boys who have fought and died in this and other wars of our country.

When the President returns pass the information on to him and ask him to stand in readiness to come and deliver the dedicational address when the time arrives. We as Negroes presume in advance that he will do this because he loves all peoples of this country and we look to him.

Yours for living and useful Memorials,

HLH/1

(Rev) H L Hawthorne - director

*Rev. H. L. Hawthorne
about here*

SUNSHINE CAMP
Phone R - 66F3

GOVERNMENT NURSERY SCHOOLS

CANTEEN FOR SERVICE MEN
Phone 12745

Pioneers of Three Outstanding Projects, to Better Race Relations in Beaumont

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Organized January 2, 1933
Phone 12744 - Rt. 1, Box 386

BEAUMONT, TEXAS

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WHITE
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D. G. Shepherd
H. T. Duperier
Mrs. J. F. Keith
Miss Martha Baker

DEAR FRIENDS AND CO-WORKERS:—

The Negro Welfare Association was organized 12 years ago, for the purpose of choosing a few key persons out of many coming from various walks of life, forming a cross-section of people, with different schools of thought, these people being believers of different religious faiths, proving and showing to them the needs of humanity, fighting no church or organization, but correcting the vice of youths and adults, our association having had this contact with various religious faiths—We are better prepared to work without prejudice with humanity, by positive rather than negative means, not overlooking the fact of having White advisors and critics to show us and others the White man's view as to how they will react and be influenced and benefitted through the various movements into which we as an Association have entered.

This type of contact and Association has classed us as an interracial, interdenominational, non-sectarian group. We are endeavoring to raise \$20,000 to establish a Memorial Park and Shrine and we need your help. We have 5 acres of land; will get more. Please be liberal, an investment of this kind is not much seeing the trouble and friction it will avert among the races. We feel that preventative measures, as recreation activities, will in short, raise the thinking level of the young Negro. We need your help.

Thanking you in the name of
Living Memorials,

Rev. H. L. Hawthorne

SUNSHINE CAMP
Phone R - 66F3

GOVERNMENT NURSERY SCHOOLS

CANTEEN FOR SERVICE MEN
Phone 12745

CITIZENS OF BEAUMONT:—

HELP US ESTABLISH A NATIONAL SHRINE FOR NEGROES WHO FOUGHT AND DIED IN THIS AND OTHER WARS OF THE U. S. A. MEMORIALS MURALS, MARKERS IN MEMORY OF THOSE WHO FOUGHT AND DIED.

HELP US MAGNIFY THE NEGRO'S PART IN THIS STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM, HELP ESTABLISH SOMETHING PERMANENT AND USEFUL, TO WHICH WE MAY LOOK BACK AND NEVER FORGET YOUR SON, YOUR HUSBAND, YOUR BROTHER, YOUR NEPHEW, AND YOUR LOVED ONE.

WHEN HE COMES BACK, HE WILL BE HAPPY AND HIS MORALE WILL BE HIGH TO KNOW THAT WE, THAT YOU, THOUGHT OF HIM WHILE HE FOUGHT FOR YOU.

EACH SERVICE MAN IS FIGHTING FOR YOU, WHEN HE IS SHOT AND WOUNDED; HE WAS WOUNDED FIGHTING TO SAVE YOU AND ALL THAT IS NEAR AND DEAR TO YOU. WHEN HE GETS KILLED, HE GETS KILLED TRYING TO SAVE YOU AND YOUR HOME LAND FROM BEING DESTROYED BY THE AXIS POWERS

HE IS GIVING HIS LIFE, HIS ARM, HIS LEG, HIS FOOT, HIS LUNG—SOMETIMES THEY COME BACK WITH MINDS DERANGED FROM SHELL SHOCK, AND NEVER BECOME THE SAME MAN AGAIN. A PARK; A MEMORIAL PARK FOR THEM, WHERE THEY CAN GO AND FIND PEACE AND CONTENTMENT IS WHAT WE ARE TRYING TO ESTABLISH.

WE MUST HAVE YOUR DONATION AS MUCH AS YOU CAN GIVE. LET US BE THE FIRST CITY IN AMERICA TO ESTABLISH SUCH AN OUTSTANDING LAND MARK IN MEMORY OF HIS PART IN THIS AND OTHER WARS OF U. S. A.

MAIL YOUR CHECKS TO THE NEGRO WELFARE ASSOCIATION, Rt, 1, Box 386, BEAUMONT, TEXAS.

YOU MAY LEAVE YOUR AMOUNT BY THE CANTEEN IF YOU WISH.

YOURS FOR LIVING MEMORIALS,

R. L. H. L. Hawthorne

City Manager's Endorsement.

February 7, 1945

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to advise that H. L. Hawthorne has authority to solicit funds for the Negro Welfare Association from February 8th to February 23rd.

G. H. Petkovsek
G. H. Petkovsek
City Manager

100
✓
March 30, 1945

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mrs. Roosevelt has received a letter with the following statement about Selma Burke:

"I understand the Federal Bureau of Investigation investigated her activities in 1940 when she was living as the wife of a German spy, on East Twenty eighth Street in New York, in a building where I had my office for a time.

The German, later, fled to Mexico and Selma Burke was active in New Jersey with the Bunds. It is my impression she was sent to prison for a term of years because of her activities against our Government."

Can you tell her if this is true?

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
National Council of Negro Women, Inc.,
1518 Vermont Avenue, N. W.,
Washington, 5, D. C.

O/h

March 30, 1945 ✓

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Sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
National Council of Negro Women, Inc.,
1318 Vermont Avenue, N. W.,
Washington, 5, D. C.

O/h

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, Inc.
 (Affiliated with the National Council of Women of the United States, Inc.)

1318 Vermont Avenue, Northwest
 Washington 5, D.C.

Telephone: Dupont 2483

- MARY McLEOD BETHUNE
 Founder and President
- First Vice-President
 VIVIAN CARTER MASON
- Second Vice-President
 ALMA ILLERY
- Third Vice-President
 EDITH SAMPSON CLAYTON
- Fourth Vice-President
 ARENIA MALLORY
- Recording Secretary
 ETHEL RAMOS HARRIS
- Treasurer
 ELIZABETH ROSS GORDON
- Parliamentarian
 SADIE MOSSELL ALEXANDER
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 ELEANOR CURTIS DAILEY
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- Historian
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- National Departments and
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 VENICE T. SPRAGGS
- Department of Citizenship
 DOROTHY I. HEIGHT
- Department of Family Life
 RUTH HOWARD BECKHAM
- Department of Religion
 CHRISTINE S. SMITH
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 INABELLE BURNS LINDSAY
- Consumer Education Committee
 WILLA MITCHELL
- Rural Life Committee
 SHELLIE NORTHCUTT
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 LILLIAN COFFEY
- Personnel Committee
 CORRINE ROBINSON
- Program Committee
 MAYME MASON HIGGINS
- Membership Committee
 MAE C. HAWES
- Legal Advisers
 EUNICE HUNTON CARTER

29 March 1945

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
 The White House
 Washington, D.C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I get in touch with the office of Attorney General Biddle regarding the statement which you sent to me concerning Selma Burke. I asked that the records be investigated and his report to me is that there is no record on Selma Burke, and that nowhere does there exist any such statement as was sent to you.

I felt from what I thought of the girl that it was a false accusation. There is much jealousy because of her rapid rise in the field of art. I wish, Mrs. Roosevelt, you would confer with the President to have Selma Burke complete the project which she started with him.

I am enclosing a letter the contents of which I wish you would note. Please let me know what you will do about this.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune
 Mary McLeod Bethune

Encl/

Exp. plan. I. as never had such confidence in S. Hugo Tord's long since the day of the White Song. I will call her to go.

JEANITA WELCH BROWN
 Executive Secretary
 Editor-in-Chief of the Journal
 SUE BAILEY THURMAN
 Circulation Manager
 HARRIET CURTIS HALL

Handwritten notes and signatures in the right margin, including a large signature that appears to be 'Mrs. A. J. ...' and other illegible scribbles.

100
April 4, 1945

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mrs. Roosevelt has asked me to
send you a copy of a letter which she
received from Mrs. Henrietta Miller,
together with a copy of her book,
IT CAN BE DONE.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
National Council of Negro Women, Inc.
1318 Vermont Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

cah
enc.