NAACP Branch Fights Housing Bias

Rev. Quintin E. Primo, Jr., president of the Rochester Branch, NAACP, in a recent letter to the Mayor and the Chairman Pro-Temps of the new City-County Human Relations Committee, and to the Democrat and Chronicle and Times-Union newspaper writers (The underlining is ours.)

Negro's Attitude In Politics—Next Issue

Dear Sir:
The Rochester Branch, NAACP, has made it known that its enforcement of the City Human Relations Committee would depend upon the membership of the Committee and its potential for effective performance.

We believe that the composition of this important committee leaves much to be desired and we believe that both the Mayor and the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors at the time of appointment:

Our recognition of the gravity of the prevailing inter-racial situation in the Rochester area coupled with our deep sense of the community's political viability, however, has led us to refrain from hampering the committee by giving public expression to our very deep resentment.

We have, indeed, fostered the sincere hope that the City-County Human Relations Committee might, by the vigor of its performance, the demonstration of its potential and its actual performance, reveal errors in original judgment. This has not happened and we are now compelled to protest loudly against the direction in which this inter-racial committee appears to be moving.

The City-County Human Relations Committee was established in Monroe County by the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors at the time of its creation.

No requests have been made for funds and no staff has been assembled for carrying out the work of the committee. If the members of the committee in this respect do not fulfill their part of the bargain which was made in the establishment of the committee.

No requests have been made for funds and no staff has been assembled for carrying out the work of the committee. If the members of the committee in this respect do not fulfill their part of the bargain which was made in the establishment of the committee.

Furthermore, if the city and county governments fail to appropriate adequate funds for the necessary expert assistance, our suspicion that they have no further interest in or sympathy for the fundamental human rights of our Negro citizens will be eloquently confirmed.

It is a tradition for our city and county governments to call in experts to aid in the solution of all important community problems. We know of no more important or more pressing problem than that of the realization of fundamental human rights for 17,000 of our oppressed citizens.

Recent press reports indicate that the politically inspired office, recently set up by the County Manager and headed by Mr. Robert E. Bray, will play a key role in the work of the committee. This office is under the control of both competent leadership and purview of our oppressed citizens.

The Board of Supervisors has a perfect right to direct Mr. Bray. We cooperate with this recommendation that the City Committee also has a perfect right to reject Mr. Bray's services.

The County Manager hopes to endow Mr. Bray's office with the special legal aid by injecting it into the work of the Human Relations Committee. We will succeed, however, only in turning the Human Relations Committee with a devastating political brush. It is positively amazing that the committee has shown so little sophistication in this matter.

An effective approach to problems of inter-group relations involves, in public affairs, the development of techniques which are available in the community. Some are superficial, others are genuine.

Continued on Page 4
BEN'S DRY CLEANERS & LAUNDERERS
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ITALIAN SAUSAGE
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ROCHESTER, N. Y.
Editor Makes

The News

The editor of this publishing company states that many of Rochester's leading business people and the various agencies serving the city's community, among those called upon for conferences were Public Safety Commissions.

On Monday, Dec. 12, he addressed the Monroe County Board of Supervisors, County Town and City Officials. He was introduced by the Chairman, Norman H. Stelle.

He met with Victor Einach, director of the Buffalo regional office of the State Commission against Discrimination. A special release was given the editor and other important matters of importance were discussed at that time.

Most with Speech Before Board of Supervisors

Monday, Dec. 12, 1960

Recent incident of Negro teen-agers: loud calls for assistance from NAACP.

Later incident of armed teen violence in better class neighborhoods; no mention of racial identity of teen-agers: no calls for assistance from anyone.

Present supervisors don't call for better housing in Negro neighborhoods; better lighting does not give welfare assistance. Only allowed to pre-suppose that those who have power and violence are the special perogatives of the Negro neighborhood. This is NOT true.

THE NEGRO VOICE

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THE NEGRO PATRONAGE

Almost unnoticed in a recent 19th Ward Republican Club discussion that centered on other matters was an off-the-cuff reply by a respected ward commissioner that raised the sensitive problem of Negroes in political patronage.

Thomas P. Scott Sr. spoke not as an aggrieved, abusive zealot but as a quiet, temperate champion of Negroes who, he feels, are entitled to a larger number of the better paid political jobs.

Scott is spoken of by a county committee source as a hard-working committee man who for seven years has helped his 22nd District roll up victories for his party. His interest, Scott insists, is not personal; he is retired on a pension and, he emphasizes, is not job-seeking.

"Colored people everywhere—in Asia, in the Congo, in Louisiana, in the 19th Ward." he told the club, "are impatient with the traditional slowness with which opportunities open up for Negroes. No officer should have cause to feel he cannot rise above his color."

A Republican county committee spokesman admits there is some truism in Scott's complaint, that there is not yet adequate representation by Negroes in political jobs. But, he adds, the picture will improve as jobs open up. Chairman Gordon Howe, Scott says, has promised to look into the situation. We think the 19th Ward commissioner would agree that jobs should not be dispensed on a mathematical formula that precisely allocates the number on a population or voter basis, but that party responsibility entails responsible government. Yet politics is both an art and a game; and one of the rules is that workers in the vineyard expect to to share the fruits.

Pointed up is a problem that becomes increasingly important to both parties as Rochester racial minorities gain in number and political know-how. Mr. Scott is an excellent spokesman for the problem.

(Reprinted from the Democrat and Chronicle)

Ed. Note — What are they trying to prove?

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 1961 — NEGRO VOICE—Page 3

EDITORIAL

NEGRO PATRONAGE

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GLEANINGS FROM THE NEWS .

(Continued from Page 1) young people whom we are able to mention. And it is so

in so well to mention here and now, that the great and mil-

tant NAACP, owes its new issue on life, to the new Negro,

representative of the Negro youth of this America.

The political scene Na-

tionally and locally is under-

going several changes. Negro politi-

cicians, particularly the Ne-

groes are greatly saddened and disappo-

inted with Presi-

dent-elect John Kennedy, for his glaring lack of foresight

in by-passing fully qualified

Negro leaders, for a post in

his cabinet.

Letters and telegrams are

now being sent to Mr. Kenne-

dy, by his staff, from scores of

Negro Democrats and Rep-

ublicans from this area.

Negro Republicans and De-

mocrats are fully agreed, that

Negro Ward Leaders must be

appointed in the Third and

Seventh Wards and that the full

ticket must make way for

Negro candidates (Super-

visor and Commissioner), as well as the majority of Ward and

County Commissioners.

Mr. Lloyd Hurst an attor-

ney, with offices in B State

St., a member of the firm of

Hunt & Davis, has been des-

ignated by the local branch of

the NAACP as a candidate for

Judge on the City Court Bench.

IF IT IS ALSO rumored that

Mr. Truman Cole, an Assist-

ant District Attorney, and as-

sistant member of the firm of

McFarlin & Harris, with offices

in the old Centra Trust

Building, is also being pushed by a

very influential group for
this coveted position. Why .

... don't these good people get... together... in 1961... boys
it's later... then you

think.

Howard W. Coles, co-leader

of the Democratic Party of the 7th ward, was appointed lead-

er in September, 1960, by Mr.

William N. Potter, Chairman of the Monroe County Demo-

cratic Party and not with-

standing, so we have been in-

formed, will continue to serve in that capacity until requested
to do otherwise by the County

Chairman of the Democratic

Party. Mr. Coles, believes in

upholding the law of the land

and doesn't believe that he can

turn on the green light for (3)

individuals in the Ward who

have elected to hide behind

the hundreds of high-minded

citizens in the Ward.

If it means that he has to

get in the gutter and wallow

and appear as an Uncle Tom

and Worship A Human God . .

. . . then he is willing to do

vorse himself along with the

followers from this type of

leadership.

PREDICTIONS of the week.

The coveted Judgship will be

filled by someone else not mentioned in this column.

The new IBPOE of W Lodge,

now in the process of being

organized will be a great addi-
tion to our community.

Mrs. Connie Mitchell, vice

chairman of the Ward and

County Committee of the

Third Ward will not be nom-
inated for the coveted posi-

tion of Superwiser on the De-

mocratie Ticket; because she

led the fight to keep the names

of the following persons from

the roster of The John Ken-

nedy State Committee on

Constitutional Rights: Fredric Tia-

mas, Herman Rowley, Maxwell

Waters and Howard W. Coles.

The last named person, repre-

sented the Monroe County De-

ocratic Committee at a Confer-

ence held in New York City,

on Oct. 10-12, 1960.

(Continued from Page 1)

Local NAACP Branch Fights Housing Bias

There are those in our community who would rely solely

upon procedures designed to change the minds and hearths

of men in the area of human relations. These individuals and

groups constitute the superficial of our community and have

little of practical value to offer to the solution of our prob-

lems.

There are others who believe that, while the hearts and

minds of men are undergoing the long and tortuous process

of favorable change, effective restraint has to be provided for

the protection of the fundamental human rights of minority

groups.

These individuals and groups constitute the growing forces

for good in our community, and can render invaluable service,

under competent direction in a variety of ways.

Any solution in the problem of civil rights in our community

requires that considerations be given to the hopes and aspirations

of the aggrieved. No Negro in the Rochester area—rich or poor,

skilled or unskilled, ignorant or educated, native or immigrant—

has been untouched by discriminatory practices.

In remedying this situation, time is the essence. The

posthumous granting of his civil rights has no appeal for our

Negro citizens. They require full citizenship NOW. Their pa-

tience, at long last, is running out.

Those of us who are close to the situation are deeply con-

cerned. We have felt compelled to call attention frequently in

recent weeks to the deteriorating race relations in our city.

Our concern deepened even more when one of our Negro

citizens, because of her protest against discrimination by a tax-

icab operator, received a vicious note.* Many such letters of

this type to those who protest discriminatory acts could do

incalculable harm.

The City-County Human Relations Committee is faced with

an awesome task. Our sense of community responsibility de-

mands that we advise you that performance to date is dis-

turbingly inadequate for the effective amelioration of the inter-

racial difficulties, as we know them. Respectfully yours,

The E. P. E. Committee.

( * A copy of this slanderous letter was forwarded.)

CITY-COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The members of the new City-County Human Relations

Committee were appointed by Mayor Peter Barry and Board of

Supervisors Chairman Norman H. Selke, as follows:

Kenneth M. Storrs, temporary president
Rev. Arthur M. Adams
Rabbi Philip S. Herman
Dr. Michael J. Cino
Julio Diaz
Lloyd L. Hurst
The Very Rev. Charles J. Lavery, C.S.B.
Dr. William F. Lee
Dr. Ruth A. Merrill
Miss Mary A. Sheehan
Dr. Catherine A. Sheehan
Richard E. Shewman
Joseph E. Silverstein
Alan J. Underberg
Joseph C. Wilson

SUBSCRIBE TODAY TO THE VOICE

SUBSCRIBE TODAY TO THE VOICE

We Wish You

A Happy & Prosperous New Year

Memos William Buckler and Becky Simmons, Republican leaders, respectively of the 7th Ward, are taking this opportunity to wish all of the voters of the Seventh Ward a Happy and prosperous New Year.

NEXT ISSUE FRIDAY JANUARY 20th