K.N.E.A. Journal

1877-official publication of

KENTUCKY NEGRO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

VOL. XXI-No. 3 **APRIL 1950**



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K. N. E. A. Journal

Official Publication of the Kentucky Negro Education Association

VOL. XXI

APRIL, 1950

No. 3

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XIII Z. A. OFFICIALS FOR 1747-1760			
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Editorial Comment

EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY NEARER

The K. N. E. A. notes with pleasure the progressive trend in thinking and consequent legislative action within the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Of special interest has been the increase in the common school fund, and an insistence that further increase is imperative if the needs of education are to be met adequately. We note, also, the partial realization of certain objectives of the legislative program of the Association. The taking over of Lincoln Institute by the State, to provide high school training for Negro pupils living in communities where no secondary education was available to them, was the first significant accomplishment of recent years.

The Lyman Johnson case, resulting in removal of the racial barrier to admission to the University of Kentucky, the recent modification of the Day Law, authorizing institutions of higher learning which wish to do so to admit Negroes to courses not offered at Kentucky State College, brought nearer equality of educational opportunity on the undergraduate, as well as the graduate level.

A significant accomplishment during the recent legislative session was an amendment to the Regional Compact, as follows: "In its participation in the regional compact approved by Senate Resolution No. 53 of the 1950 General Assembly, or in any other regional plan having a similar purpose, the Commonwealth of Kentucky shall not erect, acquire, develop or maintain in any manner any educational institution within its borders to which Negroes will not be admitted on an equal basis with other races, nor shall any Negro citizen be forced to attend any segregated regional institution to obtain instruction in a particular course of study if there is in operation within the Commonwealth at the time an institution that offers the same course of study to students of other races."

Modification of the Day Law, and the agreement that the Regional Compact will not provide racial segregation are two of the most significant occurrences affecting Negro education in recent years. These, along with increased appropriations for schools, should do much to raise the educational level, self respect and citizenship status of Negroes throughout the Commonwealth. The K. N. E. A.

has done only its duty in working for these accomplishments. It recognizes the valuable contributions made by many persons and organizations, both White and Negro, in bringing them about.

There remain many problems—further improvement of higher education, preparation of Negro youth to meet the challenge of the new conditions, removal of the handicaps caused by segregation at the elementary level, and enough money to meet the educational needs of all youth within the State. But Kentucky is on the march, the idea of gradualism in solving racial problems is operating consistently, and ways and means to continue the advance somehow will be found.

REPRESENTATIVE JESSE H. LAWRENCE

One of the unsung heroes of the recent legislative session, yet one recognized as a strong legislator, is Mr. Jesse H. Lawrence, repre-



JESSE H. LAWRENCE

sentative in the Kentucky Legislature from the 42nd District. Sincere, clear thinking and possessed of convictions, Lawrence was initiated into Kentucky's Legislature last January.

A graduate of Central High School, Louisville, with an A.B. degree from Howard University and the M.S. degree from Indiana University, a successful teacher in the field of social studies at Central High School and Madison Street Junior High School, Louisville, he had a background of knowledge and experience helpful in understanding the problems of government. A football player at Howard University, a coach of football at Louisville Municipal College, he knew something of human nature, strategy and poise, elements necessary in the game of politics as it is played in Kentucky.

His cordial reception in Frankfort, his contributions to the work of the Assembly, the respect in which he was held by friend and foe, did much for interracial good will. He met the comment, "If all Negroes were like you . . . " with, "There are many more like me . . . there will be still others if we legislate wisely."

Lawrence was an important factor in the passing of amendments to the Day Law and Regional Compact that were favorable to Negroes as citizens. On the floor of the House, during debate and passage of the bills, he maneuvered with the skill and diplomacy befitting a veteran, rather than a neophyte. His securing the cooperation of the Administration, and his ready sacrifice of personal publicity for the good of the cause he represented, were important elements in creating an atmosphere favorable to the legislation he sought. He has joined with former Representatives Charles W. Anderson, Jr. and Dennis Henderson in making history. The K. N. E. A. expresses gratitude to its former member, Representative J. H. Lawrence, of the Kentucky Legislature.

Announcements

Louisville awaits the 74th Annual Session of the K. N. E. A. All plans for the convention are completed. Short evening sessions, with dynamic speakers, qualified to bring challenging messages are scheduled. Excellent departmental meetings have been planned by interested teachers, many of whom have worked the year round in developing their programs. Some departments that have been inactive will reorganize during the convention. Social activities have been planned for the enjoyment of visitors and their friends. The Annual Musicale, always a high point in the convention program, will be better than ever this year. Louisville teachers and pupils will be having a spring vacation during the period of the meeting, therefore the customary visits to Louisville schools in session cannot be made.

FEATURES OF THE PROGRAM

Convention Dates: April 12-14, 1950

Convention Theme: "Exploring New Frontiers in Vocational Training and Vocational Opportunities."

Public Addresses: Wednesday evening—Mr. Whitney M. Young, President, K. N. E. A.; Dr. Felton G. Clark, President,

Southern University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Thursday evening: Mr. J. A. Thomas, Director, Industrial Relations, National Urban League, New York, N. Y.; Attorney J. M. Nabrit, Jr., Professor of Law, Howard University Law School,

and Secretary of Howard University.

Special Features: Dinner for Past Presidents and Past Secretaries, K. N. E. A. (5:00 p.m. Wednesday, April 12); Dinner, Librarians (4:30 p.m. Thursday, April 13); Principals' Annual Banquet (5:00 p.m. Thursday, April 13); Annual Spelling Contest, Friday, April 14, 9:00 a.m.

Social Activities: Dance by K. N. E. A. on Wednesday evening, at Brock Building, for members and guests. Admission upon presen-

tation of membership card.

Dance by Kentucky State College Alumni, Thursday evening, at Beecher Terrace, honoring K. N. E. A. members and alumni of all colleges.

Business Session: Thursday, 1:00 p.m., in the gymnasium. Com-

mittee Reports.

ELECTION: Friday, April 14, from 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. All officers are to be elected. Ballots issued only upon presentation of membership cards.

Annual Musicale: Always enjoyable; featuring, this year, Kentucky State College, Lincoln Institute, Louisville Municipal

College, Jewel McNari's Dolls.

Daytime Sessions—Madison Street Junior High School. Evening Sessions—Quinn Chapel A. M. E. Church.

Annual Musicale—Halleck Hall.

REHABILITATION OF HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

Mr. A. E. Meyzeek, member of the State Board of Education, calls attention to the fact that many handicapped children are not taking advantage of the willingness of the State to rehabilitate them. There is set aside by the State each year \$75,000 to rehabilitate children who are blind, deaf, crippled, or in need of artificial limbs.

The United States Government appropriates two dollars for every dollar appropriated by the State, thus making available a reasonable amount of money for the purpose. Mr. Meyzeek asks that the names of handicapped children who should be aided from this fund be sent him at 1701 West Chestnut Street, Louisville 3, Kentucky.

K.N.E.A. Election

The annual election of officers will be held Friday, April 14. This year all officers are to be elected. Mr. Whitney M. Young, who has given strong leadership two years, may not, according to the Constitution, succeed himself as president, nor may Messrs. W. B. Chenault and B. G. Patterson, first and second vice presidents, respectively.

The secretary-treasurer, William H. Perry, Jr., is not a candidate for reelection. The terms of all directors, Robert L. Dowery, C. B. Nuckolls, Victor K. Perry and E. W. Whiteside, expire with this session. During the recent war period, when no elections were held, the practice of staggering the terms of directors was lost, due to the fact that those whose terms would normally have expired had to continue until the next election.

There are many interested, able men and women in our Association. After the election the affairs of the organization will be in largely new, but thoroughly competent hands.

You are cordially invited to attend

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SECRETARY-TREASURER Not Candidate for Reelection



WILLIAM H. PERRY Retiring Secretary-Treasurer

With the Kentucky Negro Education Association next month, I shall complete eight years of service as your secretary-treasurer, and shall not be a candidate for reelection. I wish, therefore, to take this means of expressing the pleasure I have enjoyed in this office. I am grateful for the fine contacts that were made and continued in person and by mail, and am impressed with the sincerity and professional spirit of the teachers, principals and superintendents of the State. A real interest in educational progress has been evident from the one-room school to the institutions of higher learning, and this office has been pleased to be a means through which some small degree of its expression could be made.

It has been my privilege to serve under Presidents H. E. Goodloe, W. O. Nuckolls and Whitney M. Young, as our Association has continued its forward march under their leadership. The meetings with them, the Boards of Directors, and, in recent years, with the District Presidents, have been occasions of stimulation and value.

Although the duties have been pleasant, they have been heavy; a full time secretary could be kept busy. More time is demanded than I can hereafter give with justice to the increasing demands of my own school work and health. I consider it a special honor to have served this Association, which my father, W. H. Perry, Sr., served in its early years as president, and later as secretary. I pledge to my successor any assistance at my command which may aid him in the development of this historic organization.

-WILLIAM H. PERRY, JR.



VICTOR KENT PERRY K. N. E. A. Director 1935-1950

Mr. Victor Kent Perry, teacher of Physics at Central High School, Louisville, has served faithfully as a director of the Association continually since 1935, except for his period of service in the United States Army. He has the distinction of being one of the few classroom teachers to hold membership on the policy making body of the Association, and has made valuable contributions to its deliberations.

Mr. Perry, in declining to be a candidate for reelection, expresses his deep interest in the program of the Association, but feels that other persons should have opportunity to direct its affairs.

THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Lincoln Institute

Lincoln Ridge, Kentucky

My dear Friend and Educator:

Now that I am about to give up the reins of the Presidency of the K. N. E. A., I thought it my duty to express a personal word of thanks to the principals of the State and through them to the teachers for their generous support and cooperation at all times.

Several things have happened of real significance during the past two years which I think will remain long after this administration has passed out.

- (1) Report of our Resolution and Legislative Committee was a history-making document which gave a broad outline for the Association to follow for many years to come. It was not the work of any one man, but the combined efforts of many persons of wide experience and sound training. I would like to congratulate President R. B. Atwood, who acted as chairman of the committee.
- (2) Bringing past presidents to the city of Louisville and providing entertainment for them during the week of the K. N. E. A. was a step in the right direction. Gratitude is the noblest of all virtues. In this act we expressed our appreciation for the services of our past presidents.
- (3) Organizing the District Presidents into a functional organization and having them to meet with the Board of Directors twice a year has provided the leadership of the Association with first hand information as to the thinking of the teachers in the various districts. We have met with the Presidents at least four times and it will be impossible to estimate the value of their services. It is to be hoped that this policy will be continued.
- (4) The Legislature has been in session and perhaps it might be said, with a degree of accuracy, that this past session has been a stormy one in so far as education is concerned. Two important measures have stood out:
- (a) The amendment of the Day Law so as to admit Negroes to attend any college, professional or trade schools in the State, provided the governing body so approved.

- (b) The fight for an increase in salaries. It is common knowledge that the amount provided in the budget is twelve million dollars short of what most of the teachers had anticipated. In the long, bitter struggle to have the amount increased, your officials had been actively on the job; not trying to squeeze blood out of a turnip, but from the very beginning we have recognized the need for a long range tax program which will provide the necessary funds. It seems that we have achieved this objective. Some of the State officials and representatives are now asking that a committee be appointed to look into the whole matter. Our Association has not accepted the leadership of any other organization. We have done our own thinking and provided our own lobbyist so that the interest, not only of our own group, but all groups would be fully protected. We have attended all of the important meetings and all of the important sessions at the Capitol.
- (5) The K. N. E. A. waged a long, hard-fought battle to procure adequate appropriations for the three state schools. While those appropriations did not satisfy everyone, I think it can be said without contradiction that we are a long way from where we were two years ago. The K. N. E. A. is a highly respected organization. We have done our job without waving a red flag in the face of anyone. We have believed in getting the facts and presenting the facts in such a way as to win over the right thinking people in our State.
- (6) The last important battle has been to wipe out the idea of segregated regional schools. A delegation from Louisville waited upon the Governor and Lieutenant Governor and other leaders and succeeded in getting consent to write an amendment to the resolution which had been prepared for presentation to the General Assembly. This one act can mean more to the Negro youth of our State than any other single act that has come before our Legislature since the passing of the Day Law.

It is to be hoped that in the years that lie ahead young men of great courage and inspired vision will carry forward the program of our Association. I am certain that they will be tested and only the faith of Job will bring a full measure of success.

In closing, I wish to thank you and all others who have helped me and the other officers of our Association during the past two years. I am wishing for my successor, God's greatest blessings.

> Very truly yours, Whitney M. Young, President

Who's Who on the K.N.E.A. Program



NAME:

James Madison Nabrit, Jr. Secretary of the University and Professor of Law—Law School, Howard University

BORN:

Atlanta, Georgia

EDUCATION:

A.B., Morehouse College, 1923, with honors; J.D., Northwestern University, 1927, with highest honors; elected member of the Order of Coif; member of the editorial board of the Illinois Law Review.

EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Taught two years at Leland College, Baker, Louisiana.

Dean for two years at Arkansas State College for Negroes, Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

Teacher in the School of Law, Howard University, six years. Executive Secretary to the President of Howard University one and one-half years.

Secretary of Howard University, 1939 to present.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Engaged in the practice of law in all state and federal courts in the State of Texas for six years.

SELECTED LEGAL CASES: Brief or Argument

The Sipuel Case (a suit to secure the admission of a Negro student to the University of Oklahoma Law School—successful). This case went to the Supreme Court twice.

The Restrictive Covenant Cases—successful. Shelley vs. Kramer. Sweatt vs. The University of Texas (a suit to secure admission of a Negro into the Law School of the University of Texas).

McLaurin vs. The University of Oklahoma (a suit to remove segregation against McLaurin, whom we had already got into the University of Oklahoma Graduate School).

The last two cases will be heard in the Supreme Court of the United States next month.

The Elmer Henderson Case—a suit which will be heard in the Supreme Court next month to abolish segregation in inter-state transportation.

Lyman Johnson vs. University of Kentucky—a successful suit to secure admission of Negroes into the University of Kentucky.

Elmer vs. Rice—a successful suit to abolish the exclusion of Negroes from voting in South Carolina.

At present serving as one of the counselors in the suit against the School Board in Washington to abolish segregation.

NAME:

Felton Grandison Clark President, Southern University

BORN:

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

EDUCATION:

Student Southern University, Scotlandville, Louisiana, 1920-22; A.B., Beloit College, Beloit, Wisconsin, 1924; LL.D., 1946; A.M., Columbia University, 1925, Ph.D., 1933.



EXPERIENCE:

Instructor at Wiley College, Marshall, Texas, 1925-27; Southern University, 1927-30; instructor, Howard University, Washington, D. C., 1931-32; dean of college, Southern University, 1934-38, president since 1938. Director National Conference on Problems in Education of Negroes; member first and second Conferences on Problems of the Negro and Negro Youth.

Member National Advisory Committee on Negro Education; Julius Rosenwald Fund Rural Council, Consultant Educational Policies Commission, President Land Grant College Presidents' Conference, 1940-41, treasurer since 1941, Louisiana Department of Institutions Advisory Committee on Juvenile Delinquency, Louisiana Department of Welfare Advisory Committee on Coordinating Charity and Welfare Agencies, executive control committee Cooperative Negro College Study, control committee Negro Secondary School Study.

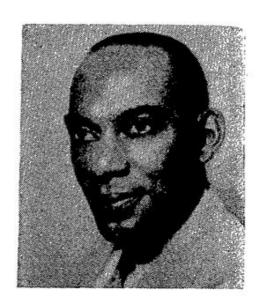
Awarded General Education Board Fellowship, 1932-33.

Member, Board of Directors, Southern Regional Council, American

Council on Education, committee on Southern Regional Studies and Education, Phi Beta Kappa, Pi Gamma Mu, Alpha Phi Alpha, Phi Beta Delta, Alpha Kappa Mu, Beta Kappa Chi, Alpha Alpha Boule of Sigma Pi Phi.

NAME:

Julius A. Thomas Director, Department of Industrial Relations, National Urban League, New York City



EXPERIENCE:

Engaged in social work for twenty-five years as a staff member of the Urban League. He has served as Executive Secretary of local affiliates in Atlanta, Georgia; Jacksonville, Florida, and Louisville, Kentucky. He was appointed Director of the Department of Industrial Relations for the national organization in 1943.

In addition to a varied and successful experience in community organization for social welfare, he has been closely identified with progressive interracial programs and activities throughout the nation. He is a frequent contributor to several magazines and newspapers and has written pamphlets and articles on various aspects of Negro life in America. He is a popular speaker and lecturer on social and economic problems, particularly as they affect race relations and the Negro population.

His work as director of the Department of Industrial Relations has brought him in frequent contact with hundreds of employers and labor leaders throughout the country. His reports on employment and vocational problems of Negro wage-earners have been widely acclaimed for their searching analyses of the problems of these workers. He is frequently called upon by officials of government, industry and labor to participate in planning programs designed to improve job opportunities for Negro workers.

Born in North Carolina, Mr. Thomas attended the public schools in Charleston, West Virginia. He is a graduate of Howard University, and he did graduate work at Columbia University.



NAME:

Virginia Lacy Jones

EDUCATION:

B.S. in Education and Bachelor of Science in Library Service, Hampton Institute; Master of Science in Library Service, University of Illinois; and Ph.D., University of Chicago.

EXPERIENCE:

Librarian, Louisville Municipal College; on the staff of the Atlanta University Library; teacher of Library Science at Prairie View State College in Texas; faculty member and Director of the Atlanta University School of Library Service since 1945; member of the Council of the American Library Association, and Secretary-Treasurer of the Association of American Library Schools.

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