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DISCRIMINATION IN PUBLIC PLACES AND THE CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS OF NEW JERSEY



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FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

THE URBAN COLORED POPULATION COMMISSION

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

State of New Jersey

THE URBAN COLORED POPULATION COMMISSION

ROOMS 527-28, 1060 BROAD STREET
NEWARK 2

MRS. SARA S. WASHINGTON
CHAIRMAN
RICHARD L. MARTIN
VICE-CHAIRMAN

EDGAR S. BALLOU
SECRETARY
JOSEPH P. BOWSER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

March 25, 1946

To His Excellency, Governor Walter E. Edge
and
The 170th Session of the New Jersey Legislature

Greetings:

I have the honor to transmit, herewith, the fourth annual report of the Commission on the Condition of the Urban Colored Population, respectfully submitted in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 192, Laws of 1941, approved June 10, 1941.

The first man to win the right to vote in the United States under the 15th Amendment was Thomas Peterson Mundy, a Negro of Perth Amboy, New Jersey. This Amendment was officially adopted on March 30, 1870 and Mundy voted in a city charter poll on the following day. Not only did he cast his ballot, but he was also named to a city board which was to revise the Perth Amboy Charter.

Thus, New Jersey became the conscientious crusader for establishing a philosophy for American ideals, these ideals of the essential dignity of the individual human being, of the fundamental equality of all men, and of certain inalienable rights of freedom, justice and a fair opportunity.

Governor Walter E. Edge
and
New Jersey Legislature

March 11,
1946

In the fullness of time this humanitarian idealism, this American dream, lured thousands of men and women within her boundaries. With the hope that they would be able to grow to the fullest development as men and women, unhampered by the barriers which had been erected in other regions of our great country.

Democracy is the only true political expression of Christianity, the Mosiac Laws and all other ancient philosophies of Communalism. The Pioneers of this State characteristically demonstrated the virtues of tolerance, culture and refinement. Happiness, Prosperity and Peace rewarded them for these Divine Virtues.

For a time, false voices infiltrated these ranks, weak beings lent their ears to the un-American expressions and unwarranted philosophies, seemingly, the very democratic structure, unbiasly built by the Pilgrims of tradition would crumble as the gods of Bael. Traditional New Jersey, dormant for a season, awoke from her temporary slumber, organized her offensive forces, and on June 17, 1938, June 10, 1941 , March 9, 1942 and April 6, 1945, gubernatorial approved legislative enactments, demonstrated emphatically the determination of a people for love of liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

For the above insured concrete evidences of Democracy in Action, the Urban Colored Population Commission and Negro citizens of the State of New Jersey are grateful.

The culture and dignities of a race or nation, the rise and fall of empires are reflective of the character of their executives and legislators.

Governor Walter E. Edge
and
New Jersey Legislature

March 25,
1946

New Jersey must and will hold fast to its sacred traditions, fostered and emblazoned through these many years of recontruction, ever mindful and alert to the responsibilities and complex problems which have presented themselves.

Problems are beneficient things, for every beneficient function of our bodies, and every faculty of our minds have resulted from problems, which have through the ages challenged the survival of Mankind.

The challenging new generation of this post-war era has returned victoriously, having defied the ruthlessness of unscrupulous tyrants and self-styled master culturists. Are we measuring up to the ideals for which these millions strove?

Their destinies, our survival, we trust to the proponents of the law of the present administration for application to its legislative measures.

Inspired by the steady advance of humanity and the glorious achievements of the past, clinging as they do to our faith in God, that American faith, we renew our allegiance to our flag and our loyalty to our country.

Most respectfully submitted,

Joseph P. Bowser
Executive Director

JPB:
rmm

The Members of This Commission
Acknowledge An Obligation And Express
Appreciation To The Many Public Officials
And Other Individuals Whose Interest And
Co-operation Proved Of Immeasurable Value
In The Endeavors Of The Past Year To
Improve The Conditions Of The Urban
Colored Population Of This State.

State of New Jersey
THE URBAN COLORED POPULATION COMMISSION
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JOSEPH P. BOWSER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

March 25, 1946

To His Excellency, Walter E. Edge
Governor of New Jersey
And
The Senate and General Assembly of New Jersey:

Sirs:

Today, as the public views the honest efforts of the New Jersey Urban Colored Population Commission to measure up to the dictates of its legislated objective and give meaning to the democratic liberties asserted in the wording of the Four Freedom; an acknowledged recognition and an expressed appreciation are reflected for the acceleration observed in the successful progress of this Commission's program.

The Commissioners give full credit for these attainments to its present personnel. With unselfish enthusiasm, the staff members of this Commission have exerted every effort to be concrete in its productivity and to accomplish the results expected with the zeal of abolition.

Often, our staff and financial appropriation seemed short in many respects of the necessary implements to accomplish our aims but the personnel of this Commission proceeded in an unrelenting crusade to expose conditions of undemocratic conception that dispelled the precious and potent utterances of our Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments.

Fortunately, in every phase of its activity, the Commission's program was aided by the contributions of a growing sentiment that is charting a course to unity through understanding of the minority group's problems. Of greatest and most influential benefit was the encouragement given our program by the friendly voice of our conscientious Governor and other well-meaning law-makers,

Inspired by the recent, hearty gains, the members of this Commission have faith and hope that the future will open many new highways of opportunity over which all New Jersey citizens shall continue its democratic way over the sands of time with a better understanding of liberty, justice and their general attendants, unhampered by the forces that, in the past, formented prejudices and race discriminations.

This Commission will continue to guard itself with decretal principles and, at all times, will respect the fine collative and piloting powers of all whose advocations seek increased reverence for our national and state constitutions. With an indisputable determination, our labors under forward measures, shall continue to search the broad avenues of justification where the vindications of Sumner, Lincoln and Fredrick Douglas can reflect with great praise the ideals of our true Americanism.

With a proper appreciation of our responsibility and opportunity to advance democracy in this State and, again, with expressions of commendation for the workers in our offices, the public officials and civic-minded individuals whose co-operation we solicited and whose response to the call of duty was so well exemplified, we are,

Very Respectfully,

The Urban Colored Population Commission

Dr. Edgar S. Ballou,
Secretary and Approval Officer

Fourth Annual Report

of the

URBAN COLORED POPULATION COMMISSION
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

- 1946 -

DISCRIMINATION IN PUBLIC PLACES

AND

THE CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS OF NEW JERSEY

-.-

Prepared for the Commission

By

JOSEPH A. CLARKE

Senior Public Relations Analyst

The URBAN COLORED POPULATION COMMISSION
of the
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

(Chapter 192, Laws of 1941)
June 10, 1941

AN ACT creating a commission to examine, enforce and recommend measures to improve the economic, cultural, health and living conditions of the urban, colored population of the State ....

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MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION

Mrs. Sarah Spencer Washington, Chairman
Atlantic City
(Term Expires Jan. 21, 1946)

Richard L. Martin, Vice-Chairman
Jersey City
(Term Expires Jan. 19, 1947)

Dr. Edgar S. Ballou, Secretary
Montclair
(Term Expires Oct. 12, 1947)

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JOSEPH P. BOWSER
Executive Director

ROGER W. TUCKER
Senior Research Statistician

JOSEPH A. CLARKE
Senior Public Relations Analyst

A. KENNETH WORDE
Research Associate

WILLIAM H MALLOY
Research Associate

ROSE M. MARSHALL
Secretary

JOHNSIE D. TAYLOR
Chief Clerk

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Prepared for This Report

By

JOSEPH A. CLARK

PART I

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RACE-RELATIONS TRENDS IN NEW JERSEY

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RACE-RELATIONS TRENDS IN NEW JERSEY

- Governmental Levels -

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Without question, the urgent necessity for unity and understanding among individuals and groups, with its recurrent, persistent and still-unsettled obligation to grant the Negro citizen a secure status without discrimination in our democratic citizenship, remains the greatest social and civic problem in America today.

In New Jersey, the pattern for a successful formula is probably less confused; and more durable progress towards an ideal adjustment has been realized than is generally appreciated or widely recognized.

The hopeful state of affairs and philosophical outlook along the racial fronts in New Jersey is prompted and results from an analysis and evaluation of the fruitful achievements of an enlightened and forward-looking program, initiated by the progressive administrations of a liberal state government.

Throughout the State, exhaustive observation of various localized activities, some aided by the cooperation and planned participation of this Commission, has revealed and witnessed the progress of a significant and productive, psychological phenomenon.

A new conception of race, color and creed is emerging in New Jersey, and is being impressively indoctrinated and accepted by a large and increasing segment of the people in every community.

The imagination of the thoughtful and intellectually alert citizens of this State has been stimulated and diverged from an apathetic state to active and progressive consciousness -- manifesting its newly-found articulation in humanitarian interests and vigorous endeavors; touching the whole range of civic reforms and social justice -- and engaging in uncompromising struggles to achieve equality of democratic opportunities for the political, economical and cultural aspirations of all citizens without discrimination.

"Brotherhood of man and fatherhood of God" are no longer mere expressions of a religious ideology, but are being individually recognized as vital, economic necessities for the survival of democratic idealism; a test and symbol of the individual's intellectual preparedness and a measure of the individual's own basic value in the world of today and tomorrow.

All activities of the URBAN COLORED POPULATION COMMISSION, created by the Legislature in 1941, are directed towards improving the economical, cultural

and living conditions of the Negro population of this State in order to secure for the Negro population equal opportunity with the general population for self-support and the cultural and economical development to the extent, if any, that such opportunity does not exist.

It is, therefore, most gratifying to the members of this Commission to conclude and report, after careful observations of sufficient demonstrations, that this new concept is being translated into the affairs of everyday, individual life by increasing numbers of inspired citizens in every community of this State.

It is important to emphasize, here, that it should not be inferred from the above that members of this Commission contend that New Jersey has eliminated all prejudices and practices of discrimination against its largest minority group. Rather, it should be frankly admitted that while New Jersey is probably foremost among the states in America to reaffirm the state's opposition to all forms of discrimination and bias directed against its minority citizenry and has enacted a long series of strong laws epitomizing the positive, democratic policy of the State government - the widest diversity of actual practices in the application of the laws can be found within the State's borders.

These incongruities in New Jersey's democratic attitude towards its colored citizens extend from complete integration on basis of equality in all political, economical, social and cultural activities in some communities to flagrant and humiliating instances of rigid segregation, in open and ignored violations of the laws of the State in other communities.

There is occasion, however, for much encouragement and appreciation of the State's efforts to establish and develop a vigorous and effective over-all-action-policy at governmental levels. By enactment of progressive legislation and creation of several commissions and agencies to deal with the intensified, human relations problems that threaten to disrupt unity among the State's citizenry, great progress has been made.

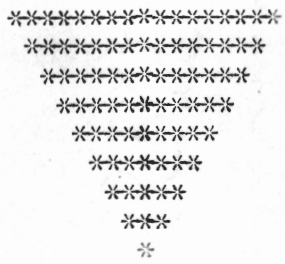
These state-created agencies, taking honest and courageous cognizance of the prevailing inconsistencies, have been successful in preparing an adequate and sound blueprint for social action that has done much to stimulate the attitude of tolerant good-will which is so essential to democratic thinking and practices among the population.

Partially, from the experiences of the war years and inadequacies in our human relationships, emphasized

vividly during the initial and current months of the reconversion era --

Partly, because of the growing strength of public opinion determined to translate into action the theoretical embodiments of our democratic government and end the embarrassing mockery of our loudly proclaimed ideologies -- but;

Largely, a result of this State's fortunate anticipation and far-sighted recognition of the need of agencies to approach these difficult and crucial problems realistically and objectively, --
DEMOCRACY IS ON THE MARCH IN NEW JERSEY.



RACE-RELATIONS TRENDS IN NEW JERSEY

- Community Levels -

Greatly strenghtening the efforts of the state created agencies to mobilize public opinion for effective democratic action and, also, providing one of the most hopeful indications of the race relations program's success, have been the note-worthy activities of numerous local committees established in the municipalities of New Jersey.

There are but few communitites in the state where some group of aggressive citizens have not formed a committee and attempted to wage a campaign against bias and discrimination. Many of the committees, having official sanction, are known as "The Mayor's Committee" and, in a few cases, are staffed with personnel paid partly by city funds.

In some communities, several of the larger civic groups like the Chamber of Commerce, labor unions, fraternal and social societies, veterans organizations, church and civic agencies, organized for other specific purposes have appointed sub-committees to study race relations problems.

While many of these small groups are, admittedly, without a clearly defined program and are inexperienced in dealing with the situations for which they seek solution, their orgainzation and local activities serve as eloquent and dramatic challenges to others of their communities to

accept the responsibility to prove the sincerity of their faiths through practices of their everyday living.

It is also of significant importance that these local committees provide opportune and easily accessible entrances for the state-created agencies to wage campaigns against race prejudices and discrimination on local battle-grounds, as acceptance of the colored citizen on a basis of unrestricted equality in the American social order, in the final analysis, must depend, largely, on local public opinion.

Quite a few of these local committees, through outspoken expressions of their policies and several commendable victories in local issues to their credit, have enrolled large memberships and developed into very influential factors in their local communities.

Among the leaders of this category with best known records of achievements are:

The Intercultural Committee of Asbury Park

The Race Relations Committee of the Atlantic City Chamber of Commerce

The Interracial Committee of Burlington

Citizens Committee on Interracial Unity of Newark

Intercultural Education Council of Newark

Interracial Council of Newark

Interracial Committee of Madison

Community Welfare Committee of Passaic

Good-Will Committee of Paterson

Salem County Good-Will Council

Trenton Committee for Unity

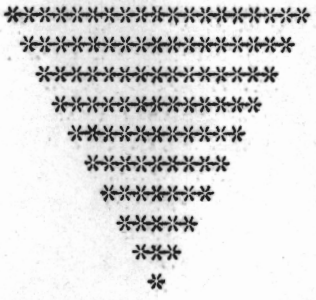
Bloomfield Council on Race Relations

With these local committees rapidly increasing in numbers - often, several small groups may be found in the same community - and the impetus towards better understanding of inter-racial problems at community levels moving ahead, having successfully progressed through the experimental stages, members of this Commission believe there is need for some co-ordinated program for a more effective accomplishments.

This Commission, like other similar, state-created agencies, in the past years has cooperated with and abbetted the growth of these local committees. Many were organized under the active direction of our staff personnel upon our advice, with information and literature prepared by our staff. This Commission has continued to serve many of them as a clearing house and diagnostic center, guiding them in charting a sound pattern of action for their peculiarly local problems.

Believing now, however, that a profitable exchange of

experiencies between the various groups appears mutually advisable and that a consolidation of the energies and resources of the various local groups into a definite, well-directed program towards a common objective would prevent over-lapping and confusion in local issues and otherwise prove advantageous; an intensified movement to create a liaison between groups already organized rather than attempt to set up new committees will be part of a major program proposed by members of this Commission in the work program for its staff workers this year.



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Bordentown Manual Training And Industrial School	$ 269,380.00
Migrant Labor Division Department of Labor	133,612.00

The Negro population, according to the last official U.S. Census, composed 5.4 per cent of New Jersey's total population.

In 1940, New Jersey's Negro population occupied 5.1 per cent of the total available dwelling units of the state and the housing conditions were considered congested. With an estimated large increase in the Negro population since 1940 and lack of construction during the same period, it is apparent that the housing conditions have grown distressingly acute.

The number of Negro home- owners in New Jersey has steadily increased since 1930. A survey by the staff members of this commission conducted in 1945, estimated a total of 16,721 Negro home-owners or occupants having equity in the homes they occupied. This represents an increase of 53 per cent within a period of 15 years when 11,000 were recorded in 1930. A sizable percentage of the increase was reported by our surveys to have been acquired during the past five war years.

48,571 of the 492,551 students enrolled in the public schools of New Jersey are of the Negro population.

According to statistics from the New Jersey Headquarters of the Selective Service, complete to July 31, 1945, the Negro population had produced 69,452 registrations. Of this number, a total of 24,871 had been inducted into the Armed Services; 20,632 in the Army, 3,679 in the Navy, 481 in the Marine Corps and 61 in the Coast Guard. Best available records established 89 serving in the Women's Army Corp.

No adequate record of voluntary enlishments could be obtained but it was known that New Jersey casualties reported in the U.S. Maritime Service, at the time, included 18 prisoners of war, 239 missing and 38 dead.

New Jersey's Negro population accounted for an estimated $64,971,679.20 of the State's total War Bond purchases.

From 1940 to 1945, the percentage of Negroes profitably engaged in skilled and unskilled occupations rose from 2.03 per cent to an estimated 8.9 per cent of the total number of workers employed in New Jersey industries.

In 1940, there were 73,207 Negro men and women in a total available labor pool of 104,970 who were reported profitably employed. In July 1945, the number of Negro men and women employed in New Jersey was estimated to have reached a total of 118,350.

During the peak of the war production period when New Jersey, ranking fifth of all the states in America, produced $ 10,000,000,000 worth of war goods and employed an estimated 1,315,000 workers; this Commission attempted a survey to ascertain the number of Negro workers employed in defense plants. The survey was conducted in plants covering 790,000 of the estimated New Jersey workers. Many of the employers were unable to furnish this Commission with the desired information, as their records were not set up according to racial identities. Our staff workers were, however, able to obtain a breakdown from employers accounting for 530,000 workers, of which 47,000 or 8.9 per cent of the total were Negroes.

The per cent of the Negro cases carried on the rolls of the welfare and old age assistance bureaus varies from 20 to 72.8 per cent of the total number of families aided.

The Negro population has established a tuberculosis rate of 185.5 per 100,000 of the population against 35.6 per 100,000 for the white population. Infant mortality rates of 59.5 per 1,000 exist among the Negro population against 31.4 per 1,000 for the white population. Corresponding maternal mortality rates are 4.1 for the Negro population against 1.9 for the white population.

According to the latest complete vital statistics,

there were 5,489 births recorded among the Negro population in 1944. In the same year, 3,400 deaths occurred among the Negro population.

In December, 1940, according to a report of the State Department of Institutions and Agencies, New Jersey had 31,410 old-age recipients, a total not exceeded before or since. Total expenses for old-age pensions for the year were $ 7,871,799. The federal government contributed $ 3,923,226. of this sum; the state, $ 2,961,429. and the various counties, $ 987,144. An aggregate total of 30 per cent of the recipients of this assistance is estimated to have been among the Negro population.

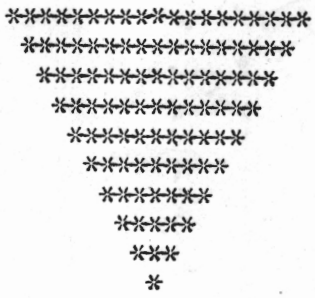
According to estimates by members of the staff of this Commission, based upon sample surveys and examination of available statistics, the 5.4 per cent Negro population of the state provides: 30 to 40 per cent of the tuberculosis cases hospitalized in New Jersey institutions; and 40 to 63 per cent of the pulmonary first admissions to public sanatoriums. In ten years, the number of Negro admissions to hospitals for the mentally ill increased 142 per cent.

Surveys of the penal and correctional institutions by staff members of this Commission are not complete, but it appears that the Negro commitments rates are lower than the rates for whites in the following offenses :

robbery, larceny, rape and other sex crimes.

It appears that the Negro population is responsible for not less than 20 per cent of the commitments to the state prison; not less than 15 per cent of the inmates of the State Home for Boys and about 25 per cent of the commitments to the State Home for Girls.

The chief offenses for which Negroes are arrested are disorderly conduct, drunkeness and assault. The leading causes for commitments to the state institutions are burglary, robbery, assault, larceny and homicide.



RACE-RELATIONS TRENDS IN NEW JERSEY

- Looking Ahead -

Unless the pace of events is deceptive, New Jersey already with the largest per cent Negro population of any of the northern states, must expect and be prepared for the many complex problems posed with the integration of a considerably, large number of Negro in-migrants into the urban life of its citizenry.

There is increasing evidence, revealed by a comparison of migration trends, that the events of the past five years are likely to have as much, if not more, effect on the growth of the State's Negro population, as did the conditions existing during and just after the period of World War I, when New Jersey experienced a 78.3 per cent increase in its Negro population, the sharpest rise in the history of the State.

In each distinct movement influencing general migration of large numbers into New Jersey, it is interesting and significant that the Negro population increases more rapidly than the white population.

Between 1910 and 1930, the 20 year period embracing the duration of World War I, the Negro population increased 133.8 per cent, more than twice the 55.9 per cent rate of increase of the white population.

In every decade since 1890, with the exception of 1900-1910, the rate of increase for the Negro population in the State has exceeded the corresponding climb of the white population.

Year	Total Population	Negro Population	% Negro In Total Population	Per Cent of Negro Increase
1890	1,444,933	47,638	3.3	22.6
1900	1,883,669	69,884	3.7	46.6
1910	2,537,167	89,760	3.5	28.5
1920	3,155,900	117,132	3.7	30.5
1930	4,041,334	208,828	5.2	78.3
1940	4,160,165	226,973	5.4	8.7
1946	4,625,182 (estimated)	———	—	—

According ot the U.S. Census Bureau, despite the absence of 424,241 citizens in the Armed Services, New Jersey's overall population, from April 1, 1940 to July 1, 1945, increased 40,776 above the 1940 official census tabulation. The report from the U.S. Census Bureau tabulated a total civilian migration of 224,933 persons into the State for the same period. The natural increase (excess of births over deaths) was reported as 146,842.

In a memorandum, "Racial Aspects of Reconversion", prepared for the president of the United States by the National Urban League, the analysis of the Background of Migration

states:

> "The geographical patterns of Negro in-migration corresponded with the areas of the most stringent manpower requirements in 1943-1945....The migration of Negroes terminatd in centers of war industries in various regions....In the northern areas, such communities as...the northern New Jersey area...became important termini."

With 5,400 registered war plants running full time to fill contracts totaling $ 12,090,197,000 from June 1, 1940 to October 1, 1944, New Jersey's occupational opportunities held strong magnetic appeals for hundreds of thousands of in-migrants. In addition, the Federal Government invested during the same period a total of $ 722,714,000 for war-time facilities in the State. New Jersey rose to fifth among all the states in war output, and during almost the entire period, the northern section where the bigger industries were concentrated was classified as a "critical area" because of the difficulty of satisfying the demands for labor. In-migrants poured into the swollen populations of the State's industrial areas. Without question, it may be assumed that the Negro maintained his traditional quota.

Too, New Jersey had large and important military and naval construction projects. A great number of the Negro in-migrants established residence in New Jersey in the population shift to the vicinity of these army and naval bases.

Many Negro servicemen, trained or stationed in New Jersey during the war period, are known to have no intention of ever returning to their original homes in southern areas. Having fought for democracy, they seek in New Jersey opportunities for a fuller life without the handicaps openly and legally imposed by the South upon its Negro citizens.

A poll recently completed among army divisions revealed that 52 per cent of all returning veterans will abandon their home state and old jobs to seek fortunes in new fields. More than 40 per cent of the Negroes polled expressed very definite decisions about staying "this side". Only and approximate 11 per cent preferred the "West", leaving this section as their preferential selection to absorb the remainder.

All of these trends, in the opinion of the members of this Commission, pose a severe test of New Jersey's blueprints for social action and preparation to integrate these new-comers in our democratic life - provide the social and cultural oppostunities they seek and help them to economic security.

The entire pace and tone of the democratic processes - the permanence of recent gains - the extent of strained, interracial relations - the degree of danger from inflamed animosities - all will depend on the extent to which the

significance of this population growth is grasped by the citizens, their civic leaders and, particularly, state and municipal officials having the opportunity and responsibility to extend democracy and social justice, impartially, to all.

One letter from the files of this Commission asking, "Where do we go from here?", vividly reflects the honest thinking needed on this posed problem.

George S. Pfaus, Director of the U.S. Employment Service, approaching the subject objectively from the employment angle states:

> "One of the most important questions affecting the economy and the welfare of all the people of the nation today is whether the gains in employment and in employment practices for Negro workers made during the war period will continue in the post-war years. That really noticeable gains were made is unquestionable. By the end of the war there were very few industrial plants in the Newark area which discriminated totally in the employment of Negroes. While only a small number of establishments had achieved a completely all-out nerit system of hiring and upgrading in which no attention was paid to race, creed or national origin, there were enough of these to establish precedents and yardsticks and to point the way for others to follow. Enough upgrading of Negro workers were made in most of the other companies to serve as examples of the success of the process within these plants.
>
> " As a result of the war experience there are hundreds of thousands of white workers in the Newark area who have learned that their Negro fellow-citizens also make good fellow-workers. Similarly, there are now hundreds of employers here who have learned that a Negro employee,

if given the opportunity, is just as good a producer as a white employee. A sizeable number of leading industrialists have learned these facts so well that they are willing to stand up and be counted and to exert their leadership among other businessmen on this subject.

"Both the Congress of Industrial Organization and the American Federation of Labor in this State are clearly on record as favoring steps to end discrimination in employment. Many individual labor unions have anti-discrimination committees which are intelligently and militantly dealing with the issue among their memberships and with their employers.

"In the establishment of the Anti-Discrimination Division of the Department of Education and particularly in the type of staff which has been selected to head the Division, our State has taken a "seven league boot" step forward toward the goal of real democracy in action.

"All of this spells real progress. Of course, it is a shame that it took a war situation to bring this about, but nevertheless, the advance has been made and it behooves all of us to see to it that we continue to move forward and do not slip into a period of retrogression.

"Millions of war plant workers have been laid off all over the country. Some of them have been re-employed and the rest are collecting their unemployment compensation benefits and looking for other jobs. A large portion of these are Negroes. In the majority of cases the Negro worker was the latest hired and was, therefore, under seniority requirements, the first fired. This should not be taken as an indictment of the seniority system, however. Once Negroes have had the opportunity to hold jobs in peacetime this system will protect them just as it protects all.

> "Where do we go from here? There is only one satisfactory answer - full employment. Only with full employment will there be enough jobs for all Negro workers and all white workers. So long as there are not enough for all workers of both races the possibility of division of thought and action exists. It is basically on this potential division that all un-American race conflict depends. I believe that it is wiser to remove the cause of the conflict than to tell people by legislation or otherwise that they should not fight each other."

This letter reflects the sincere apprehension and logical comprehension which must eventually and inevitably dawn upon all of us, if the progress made in recent years under the State-initiated programs is to remain a permanent advance towards ideal adjustments for democratic living.

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PART II

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THE CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS OF NEW JERSEY

THE CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS OF NEW JERSEY

The Most Paradoxical Chapter in The History of The New Jersey Legislature

To overcome the indefensible disparity between the constitutional equality which the State guarantees to its citizens and the inequalities it actually practices, the Negro's position and status as a citizen in New Jersey society has been both the cause and subject of the most paradoxical chapter in the history of the New Jersey Legislature from 1664 to this date.

Most of the legal enactments upon the Statutes of New Jersey affecting the welfare of the Negro population resulted from agitation of politically strong pressure groups. Some were compromises between strong conflicting interests; others represented a victory inspired generosity on the part of an appreciative legislature in a patriotic gesture to reward the Negro's contributions in the country's wars. Many reflected the strong religious convictions of the early settlers exerting a vigorous and effective influence upon the social patterns of the community and the laws of the State.

Prior to 1664, only a few scattered settlements had been made in New Jersey by the Swedes and the Dutch. When control of the land was yielded to the English, the first historical record of the presence of Negroes

in this area was noted in the "Concessions" from Lord Berkeley and Sir George Carteret, proprietors of the New Jersey colony, which granted "seventy-five acres for every slave held to every colonist coming with the first Governor".

The Negro slave population increased rapidly in New Jersey during the period between 1680 and 1740. Up to 1702, the colonists had recognized the institution of slavery but had done little or nothing toward promoting the trade. Now, stimulated by the encouragement Queen Anne gave to the promotion of forced servitude, slavery flourished until New Jersey had the largest Negro population of any of the northern states with the exception of New York.

New Jersey, from 1676 until re-united into a single province under Queen Anne in 1702, was divided into East Jersey and West Jersey. The New Englanders settled in East Jersey, bringing with them their traditions of theocracy and puritanical codes of morals which were reflected in the laws of their communities. The Dutch who settled mostly in Bergen, Somerset and Monmouth counties, contributed a major share of the opposition to the abolitionist's movement. The Quakers, who settled mainly in West Jersey, exerted a definite and most decisive influence upon the social practices and thinking

of the period. Their strong aversion to the institution of slavery stimulated an active campaign in behalf of the education and manumission of the Negro slaves; and they also manifested the greatest initiation in securing through the courts the rights granted to the Negroes by the laws.

As early as 1702, however, the condition and position of the black men in the colony's society began disturbing, moral recrimination in the minds of the early New Jersey colonists; and marked the beginning of this contradictory chapter of negative and positive enactments by the New Jersey Legislature. First of these, perhaps, occurred when Queen Anne's concern for the salvation of the souls of the black men of her colony created a controversial contention that if Negroes were baptized, they would cease to be slaves. Her parliament passed a law declaring that the Christianizing of a slave did not change his status.

A series of laws followed, designed to regulate the lives and position of the Negroes in the colony; some aimed at restricting the trade in human beings and elevating the character of the black inhabitants of the area; others attempted to discourage and restrict the manumissions of the slaves and extend the institution of slavery.

The anti-slavery movement did not attain significant proportions until about 1792, but as early as 1776, the Society of Friends (Quakers) denied right of membership to those Friends who held slaves. Later, the Society of Friends succeeded in establishing the New Jersey Society for Promoting the Abolition of Slavery.

The Constitution of 1776 laid the foundation for Negro suffrage in New Jersey. Drawn up within two days after the New Jersey Colony had declared its independence from Great Britian, the Constitution of 1776 granted suffrage to all persons worth fifty pounds. Laws were enacted which emancipated Negroes who had served in the Revolutionary War. Under these provisions, Negroes enjoyed suffrage until an 1807 enactment sought to restrict the franchise to free white male citizens of the State.

The New Jersey Society for Promoting the Abolition of Slavery, organized at Burlington, continued a persistent and determined fight, repeatedly filing numerous petitons with every legislature which pleaded for the abolition of slavery. Agitation, spearheaded largely by these pro-abolition groups, was responsible for the following Legislative Acts:

1. The Act of March 22, 1786 prohibiting importation of slaves.

During the peak of the war production period when New Jersey, ranking fifth of all the states in America, produced $ 10,000,000,000 worth of war goods and employed an estimated 1,315,000 workers; this Commission attempted a survey to ascertain the number of Negro workers employed in defense plants. The survey was conducted in plants covering 790,000 of the estimated New Jersey workers. Many of the employers were unable to furnish this Commission with the desired information, as their records were not set up according to racial identities. Our staff workers were, however, able to obtain a breakdown from employers accounting for 530,000 workers, of which 47,000 or 8.9 per cent of the total were Negroes.

The per cent of the Negro cases carried on the rolls of the welfare and old age assistance bureaus varies from 20 to 72.8 per cent of the total number of families aided.

The Negro population has established a tuberculosis rate of 185.5 per 100,000 of the population against 35.6 per 100,000 for the white population. Infant mortality rates of 59.5 per 1,000 exist among the Negro population against 31.4 per 1,000 for the white population. Corresponding maternal mortality rates are 4.1 for the Negro population against 1.9 for the white population.

According to the latest complete vital statistics,

there were 5,489 births recorded among the Negro population in 1944. In the same year, 3,400 deaths occurred among the Negro population.

In December, 1940, according to a report of the State Department of Institutions and Agencies, New Jersey had 31,410 old-age recipients, a total not exceeded before or since. Total expenses for old-age pensions for the year were $ 7,871,799. The federal government contributed $ 3,923,226. of this sum; the state, $ 2,961,429. and the various counties, $ 987,144. An aggregate total of 30 per cent of the recipients of this assistance is estimated to have been among the Negro population.

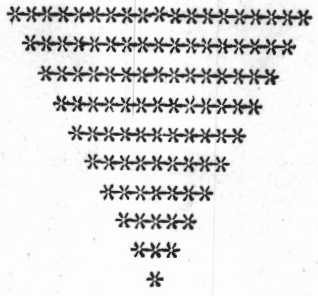
According to estimates by members of the staff of this Commission, based upon sample surveys and examination of available statistics, the 5.4 per cent Negro population of the state provides: 30 to 40 per cent of the tuberculosis cases hospitalized in New Jersey institutions; and 40 to 63 per cent of the pulmonary first admissions to public sanatoriums. In ten years, the number of Negro admissions to hospitals for the mentally ill increased 142 per cent.

Surveys of the penal and correctional institutions by staff members of this Commission are not complete, but it appears that the Negro commitments rates are lower than the rates for whites in the following offenses :

robbery, larceny, rape and other sex crimes.

It appears that the Negro population is responsible for not less than 20 per cent of the commitments to the state prison; not less than 15 per cent of the inmates of the State Home for Boys and about 25 per cent of the commitments to the State Home for Girls.

The chief offenses for which Negroes are arrested are disorderly conduct, drunkeness and assault. The leading causes for commitments to the state institutions are burglary, robbery, assault, larceny and homicide.



RACE-RELATIONS TRENDS IN NEW JERSEY

- Looking Ahead -

Unless the pace of events is deceptive, New Jersey already with the largest per cent Negro population of any of the northern states, must expect and be prepared for the many complex problems posed with the integration of a considerably, large number of Negro in-migrants into the urban life of its citizenry.

There is increasing evidence, revealed by a comparison of migration trends, that the events of the past five years are likely to have as much, if not more, effect on the growth of the State's Negro population, as did the conditions existing during and just after the period of World War I, when New Jersey experienced a 78.3 per cent increase in its Negro population, the sharpest rise in the history of the State.

In each distinct movement influencing general migration of large numbers into New Jersey, it is interesting and significant that the Negro population increases more rapidly than the white population.

Between 1910 and 1930, the 20 year period embracing the duration of World War I, the Negro population increased 133.8 per cent, more than twice the 55.9 per cent rate of increase of the white population.

In every decade since 1890, with the exception of 1900-1910, the rate of increase for the Negro population in the State has exceeded the corresponding climb of the white population.

Year	Total Population	Negro Population	% Negro In Total Population	Per Cent of Negro Increase
1890	1,444,933	47,638	3.3	22.6
1900	1,883,669	69,884	3.7	46.6
1910	2,537,167	89,760	3.5	28.5
1920	3,155,900	117,132	3.7	30.5
1930	4,041,334	208,828	5.2	78.3
1940	4,160,165	226,973	5.4	8.7
1946	4,625,182 (estimated)	———	—	——

According ot the U.S. Census Bureau, despite the absence of 424,241 citizens in the Armed Services, New Jersey's overall population, from April 1, 1940 to July 1, 1945, increased 40,776 above the 1940 official census tabulation. The report from the U.S. Census Bureau tabulated a total civilian migration of 224,933 persons into the State for the same period. The natural increase (excess of births over deaths) was reported as 146,842.

In a memorandum, "Racial Aspects of Reconversion", prepared for the president of the United States by the National Urban League, the analysis of the Background of Migration

states:

> "The geographical patterns of Negro in-migration corresponded with the areas of the most stringent manpower requirements in 1943-1945....The migration of Negroes terminatd in centers of war industries in various regions....In the northern areas, such communities as...the northern New Jersey area...became important termini."

With 5,400 registered war plants running full time to fill contracts totaling $ 12,090,197,000 from June 1, 1940 to October 1, 1944, New Jersey's occupational opportunities held strong magnetic appeals for hundreds of thousands of in-migrants. In addition, the Federal Government invested during the same period a total of $ 722,714,000 for war-time facilities in the State. New Jersey rose to fifth among all the states in war output, and during almost the entire period, the northern section where the bigger industries were concentrated was classified as a "critical area" because of the difficulty of satisfying the demands for labor. In-migrants poured into the swollen populations of the State's industrial areas. Without question, it may be assumed that the Negro maintained his traditional quota.

Too, New Jersey had large and important military and naval construction projects. A great number of the Negro in-migrants established residence in New Jersey in the population shift to the vicinity of these army and naval bases.

Many Negro servicemen, trained or stationed in New Jersey during the war period, are known to have no intention of ever returning to their original homes in southern areas. Having fought for democracy, they seek in New Jersey opportunities for a fuller life without the handicaps openly and legally imposed by the South upon its Negro citizens.

A poll recently completed among army divisions revealed that 52 per cent of all returning veterans will abandon their home state and old jobs to seek fortunes in new fields. More than 40 per cent of the Negroes polled expressed very definite decisions about staying "this side". Only and approximate 11 per cent preferred the "West", leaving this section as their preferential selection to absorb the remainder.

All of these trends, in the opinion of the members of this Commission, pose a severe test of New Jersey's blueprints for social action and preparation to integrate these new-comers in our democratic life - provide the social and cultural oppostunities they seek and help them to economic security.

The entire pace and tone of the democratic processes - the permanence of recent gains - the extent of strained, interracial relations - the degree of danger from inflamed animosities - all will depend on the extent to which the

significance of this population growth is grasped by the citizens, their civic leaders and, particularly, state and municipal officials having the opportunity and responsibility to extend democracy and social justice, impartially, to all.

One letter from the files of this Commission asking, "Where do we go from here?", vividly reflects the honest thinking needed on this posed problem.

George S. Pfaus, Director of the U.S. Employment Service, approaching the subject objectively from the employment angle states:

> "One of the most important questions affecting the economy and the welfare of all the people of the nation today is whether the gains in employment and in employment practices for Negro workers made during the war period will continue in the post-war years. That really noticeable gains were made is unquestionable. By the end of the war there were very few industrial plants in the Newark area which discriminated totally in the employment of Negroes. While only a small number of establishments had achieved a completely all-out nerit system of hiring and upgrading in which no attention was paid to race, creed or national origin, there were enough of these to establish precedents and yardsticks and to point the way for others to follow. Enough upgrading of Negro workers were made in most of the other companies to serve as examples of the success of the process within these plants.
>
> " As a result of the war experience there are hundreds of thousands of white workers in the Newark area who have learned that their Negro fellow-citizens also make good fellow-workers. Similarly, there are now hundreds of employers here who have learned that a Negro employee,

if given the opportunity, is just as good a producer as a white employee. A sizeable number of leading industrialists have learned these facts so well that they are willing to stand up and be counted and to exert their leadership among other businessmen on this subject.

"Both the Congress of Industrial Organization and the American Federation of Labor in this State are clearly on record as favoring steps to end discrimination in employment. Many individual labor unions have anti-discrimination committees which are intelligently and militantly dealing with the issue among their memberships and with their employers.

"In the establishment of the Anti-Discrimination Division of the Department of Education and particularly in the type of staff which has been selected to head the Division, our State has taken a "seven league boot" step forward toward the goal of real democracy in action.

"All of this spells real progress. Of course, it is a shame that it took a war situation to bring this about, but nevertheless, the advance has been made and it behooves all of us to see to it that we continue to move forward and do not slip into a period of retrogression.

"Millions of war plant workers have been laid off all over the country. Some of them have been re-employed and the rest are collecting their unemployment compensation benefits and looking for other jobs. A large portion of these are Negroes. In the majority of cases the Negro worker was the latest hired and was, therefore, under seniority requirements, the first fired. This should not be taken as an indictment of the seniority system, however. Once Negroes have had the opportunity to hold jobs in peacetime this system will protect them just as it protects all.

> "Where do we go from here? There is only one satisfactory answer - full employment. Only with full employment will there be enough jobs for all Negro workers and all white workers. So long as there are not enough for all workers of both races the possibility of division of thought and action exists. It is basically on this potential division that all un-American race conflict depends. I believe that it is wiser to remove the cause of the conflict than to tell people by legislation or otherwise that they should not fight each other."

This letter reflects the sincere apprehension and logical comprehension which must eventually and inevitably dawn upon all of us, if the progress made in recent years under the State-initiated programs is to remain a permanent advance towards ideal adjustments for democratic living.

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PART II

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THE CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS OF NEW JERSEY

THE CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS OF NEW JERSEY

The Most Paradoxical Chapter in The History of The New Jersey Legislature

To overcome the indefensible disparity between the constitutional equality which the State guarantees to its citizens and the inequalities it actually practices, the Negro's position and status as a citizen in New Jersey society has been both the cause and subject of the most paradoxical chapter in the history of the New Jersey Legislature from 1664 to this date.

Most of the legal enactments upon the Statutes of New Jersey affecting the welfare of the Negro population resulted from agitation of politically strong pressure groups. Some were compromises between strong conflicting interests; others represented a victory inspired generosity on the part of an appreciative legislature in a patriotic gesture to reward the Negro's contributions in the country's wars. Many reflected the strong religious convictions of the early settlers exerting a vigorous and effective influence upon the social patterns of the community and the laws of the State.

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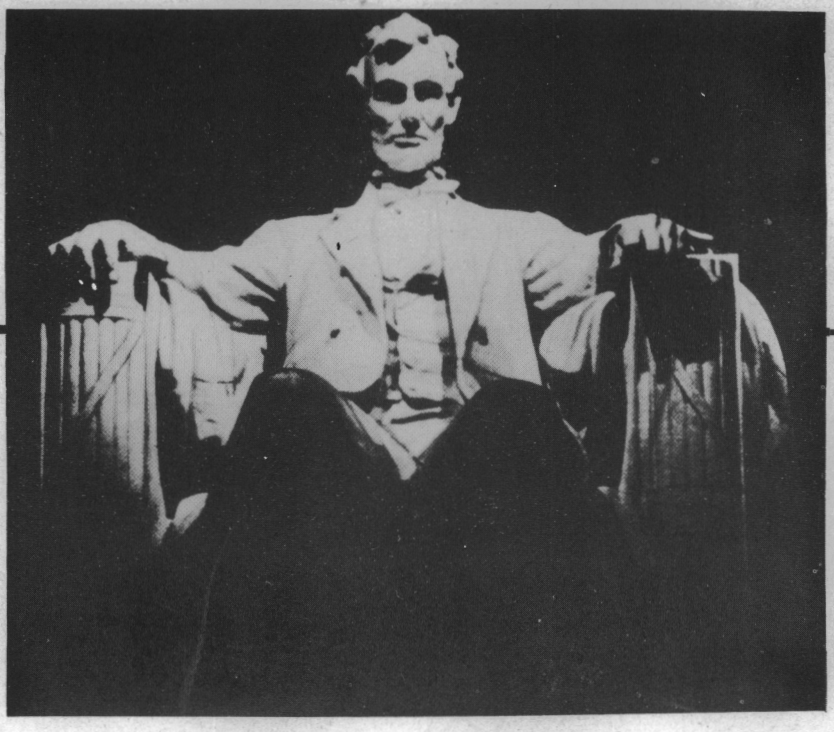

THE WORDS OF A GREAT AMERICAN

" LET EVERY AMERICAN; EVERY LOVER OF LIBERTY, EVERY WELL-WISHER OF HIS POSTERITY, SWEAR BY THE BLOOD OF THE REVOLUTION NEVER TO VIOLATE IN THE LEAST PARTICULAR THE LAWS OF THE COUNTRY, AND NEVER TO TOLERATE THEIR VIOLATION BY OTHERS.

* * * LET REVERENCE FOR THE LAWS BE BREATHED BY EVERY AMERICAN MOTHER TO THE LISPING BABE THAT PRATTLES ON HER LAP; LET IT BE TAUGHT IN THE SCHOOLS, IN SEMINARIES AND IN COLLEGES ; LET IT BE WRITTEN IN PRIMERS, IN SPELLING BOOKS AND IN ALMANACS; LET IT BE PREACHED FROM THE PULPITS , PROCLAIMED IN LEGISLATIVE HALLS AND ENFORCED IN COURTS OF JUSTICE. AND, IN SHORT, LET IT BECOME THE POLITICAL RELIGION OF THE NATION; AND LET THE OLD AND THE YOUNG , THE RICH AND THE POOR, THE GRAVE AND THE GAY OF ALL SEXES AND TONGUES AND COLORS AND CONDITIONS, SACRIFICE UNCEASINGLY UPON ITS ALTARS."

- - - Abraham Lincoln

THE CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS OF NEW JERSEY

- Failures in Application And Enforcement -

After extensive study, this Commission has concluded that no phase of discrimination directed against the State's urban colored population has a wider or more dangerous influence than discrimination in public places that denies accommodations and refuses services to colored patrons solely because of race and color.

This type of discrimination embraces every class of the colored population, irrespective of means, education, culture, character, position or behavior; and in actual application and execution, subjects all, without distinction, to extremes in embarrassment, humiliation and injustice.

It is the belief of this Commission that discrimination of this kind, excites an increasing and bitter resentment among the colored population because the continuous injustices, flagrantly perpetrated, are commonly accepted and ignored, despite the existence of the New Jersey Civil Rights Laws.

Our observations also indicate that the vast majority of the citizens of this State who are not discriminated against in this manner are really unaware, both of

the nature and the extent of the discrimination practiced against the State's largest minority group. We have learned from our experiences that patriotic citizens throughout the State, upon becoming conscious of this situation, speedily join the enlightened, liberal forces who are moving to obtain fullest equality of democratic opportunity and liberty for the urban colored population as the surest guarantee that democracy will survive for the benefit of all citizens.

New Jersey is nationally regarded as one of the foremost states of the nation in enacting and enforcing liberal legislation to provide equality of opportunity for the social, economical and political development of its colored citizenry. Of the 18 states now having civil rights legislation upon its statutes, New Jersey's are considered among the best and most adequate, containing the strongest provisions and penalties.

This Commission, also, believes that there was never a more critical need, nor a more opportune time than now, for New Jersey authorities, having the responsibility to do so, to re-affirm the State's opposition to all manifestations of bigotry by sincere efforts to enforce every law that strengthens democracy or increases respect for democratic government in this State.

An analysis of our observations in this specific field indicates that the principal reasons why the New Jersey Civil Rights Law has not effectively accomplished its ostensible purpose can be summarized in the following conclusions:

(1) The New Jersey Civil Rights Law, while widely known among the minority group whose civil liberties it was designed to protect, is not sufficiently known and understood by the majority group who commit the violations and inflict the injuries. In many instances, the very existence of the law has been found to have been unknown.

(2) Operators of public places, as defined in Section 1 - 5 of Chapter 10, Revised Statutes of New Jersey (The Civil Rights Laws) should be made acquainted with the existence, intent and provisions of the Law.

(3) Law enforcement officers in every community of each county should be made aware of the existence, intent and provisions of the Law. An especial necessity not to ignore reported violations of the provisions of this Law should also be urged upon them.

(4) There should be some suggested force behind an Administration inspired movement to make the Law applicable and more effective.

With the creation of The NEW JERSEY URBAN COLORED POPULATION COMMISSION by the Legislature in 1941, it was inevitable that large numbers of persons would turn to this agency to report numerous complaints of alleged discrimination. These citizens expected and demanded action.

In our annual report, submitted to the Legislature on February 1, 1945, we recorded that 38 owners or managers of public places, operating under municipal or State licenses, were interviewed by members of our staff after alleged violations of the Civil Rights Laws had been reported to our offices. Our representatives reported partial success in persuading 2 hotels, 8 of the better class restaurants and 5 cafeterias in 3 of the northern cities of the State to cease policies of discrimination against colored patrons.

Every case referred to our attention received careful consideration. Remaining uncompromising in the attitude that the Law should be impartially applied and enforced, this Commission adopted a policy that sought to avoid an overt act that might aggravate an already tense, inter-racial situation. In many cases where it was considered that ill-advised, individual behavior might develop such tension; or in situations where large

numbers of the urban colored population were inconvenienced by the denial of accommodations or services of the places where discrimination had been reported, staff members of this Commission were instructed to take the initiative and responsibility for approaching the management of such places and attempt to effect an adjustment or change of policy.

In every case filed with this office by individuals, we informed each of the complainants of the legal rights of all citizens to equal accommodation and service in all publicly operated places within the definition of the New Jersey Civil Rights Laws. We gave a complete text of the Laws to each complainant, interpreting and explaining the provisions and penalties. In cases where it was deemed unlikely that this Commission's overtures would prove effective, we advised the complainants to confer with an attorney of his choice or, as in some cases, we referred the complaining citizen to one of the reputable, semi-public or privately-endowed community organizations, concerned with obtaining equality of justice and civil liberties for all citizens.

Most of the cases reported to our offices followed a familiar pattern. The following illustrations from our files are typical of the range of action of our representa-

tives and indicate the degree of success our interventions earned.

In the case of a reported incident at one of the better class restaurants of Newark, two telephone conversations and one communication were sufficient for our representatives to receive the thanks of the management and assurances that another incident of similar nature would not occur.

On another occasion, three women came to this Commission's offices at Newark to protest a segregated seating arrangement, rigidly executed by the management and personnel of a north Jersey theatre.

According to their statement to our representatives, upon entering the theatre and surrendering their tickets to the attendant at the entrance, they were told that they could sit only in the balcony or the right side of the orchestra. The attendant insisted, after their objections, that they would either have to sit in the section allocated for colored patrons or accept a refund of the price of their tickets and leave the theatre.

The three women accepted the refund, left the theatre and made the protest at our offices the following day.

Messrs. Tucker and Worde of our staff, assigned by

the Director to make an investigation, were successful in their first interview with the manager in eliminating this policy of segregated seating.

The Trenton Branch of the National Association For The Advancement Of Colored People arranged a conference between their legal redress committee and the owners and managers of all of the Trenton theatres. After discussion, promises were exacted from the owners and managers that all discriminatory restrictions regarding seating of colored patrons would be removed.

Accordingly, the Trenton theatres became free of all segregated seating arrangements and remained thus until a new house opened with a discriminatory policy. The local N.A.A.C.P., immediately filed two suits under the Civil Rights Laws. The suits were later withdrawn in a compromise reached in the Judge's Chambers after another agreement was made with the theatre owners and managers. This later promise of the managers to maintain a policy free of discrimination was given additional weight by the Judge's statement that he would allow the full amount under the Law if discrimination continued in Trenton theatres and suits filed under the New Jersey Civil Rights Law reached his court.

This Commission does not contend that civil rights legislation can overcome prejudice - a human emotion. But discrimination - a human act - positively prohibited by New Jersey Law, can be controlled and prevented within this State by more effective application and enforcement of the legislation.

Members of this Commission also believe the New Jersey Civil Rights Laws are quite adequate to accomplish its purpose of preventing unlawful acts of discrimination in public places.

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Appreciation is expressed to
Robert Queen, Counsellor al Law,
Trenton, N. J., for extensive
collaboration with staff members of
this commission in the study and analysis
of the New Jersey Civil Rights Laws
and for permission to quote the
NAACP vs Trenton Theatres
cases from his files.

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THE CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS OF NEW JERSEY

- Recommendations -

To correct what this Commission believes to be the principal failures of effective enforcement of the State's Civil Rights Laws, the following program, as part of the work of this Commission for 1946, has been proposed.

Our outline provides for a state-wide survey to obtain a true picture of the conditions in each of the larger communities of the State. An ample supply of copies of the Civil Rights Law will be made available for wide distribution throughout the State. Co-operation of the newspapers of the State will be sought to aid this campaign by publishing articles prepared by our public relations staff. All other available mediums of influencing public thought will be sought for assistance and cooperation to successfully wage this educational campaign throughout the State.

The proposed state-wide campaign will include a movement to obtain the voluntary posting of a small placard in all public places. The placard would be similar in size and design to the "No Smoking Allowed" signs observed in all public service buses; similar, also, in design to the "No Liquor Served To Minors" signs

which may be seen on the walls of most taverns and cafes serving drinks.

The suggested placard is outlined below:

NEW JERSEY LAW

Refusal To Serve A Patron Because of Race, Color Or Religion Prohibited By Law .. And Punishable By Fines Not Exceeding $500 Or Imprisonment For Not More Than 90 Days, Or Both.

Chapter 10, Revised
Statutes of New Jersey

If the anticipated results cannot be obtained through the voluntary co-operation of the operators of the publicly licensed places, legislation will be proposed for enactment into law to make the posting of such a placard mandatory in all public places.

To prepare and influence local public sentiment to accept a changing complexion of the local patronage situation, this Commission proposes to address letters to the Prosecutors of each county and to the next organized Grand Jury of each county.

These communications will contain summaries of this Commission's observations in the respective counties and

will ask that the prosecutor and the Grand Jury take cognizance of the prevailing situations and make some commitment urging the citizens of their communities to end discrimination in public places against the colored population.

As the suggested force behind an Administration inspired and Administration supported movement to make the New Jersey Civil Rights Law applicable and more effective, this Commission respectfully recommends that the Attorney-General, with the Governor's approval, appoint an Assistant Deputy Attorney-General to be attached to the staff of the New Jersey Urban Colored Population Commission as head of a Civil Rights Division.

Duties of the Assistant Deputy Attorney-General and the functions of the Civil Rights Division and its relationship to the organization and program of the New Jersey Urban Colored Population Commission are shown in a diagram reproduced on the following page.

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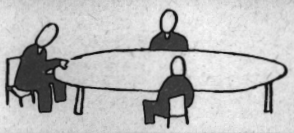
Organization And Work Program of The Urban Colored Population Commission

THE COMMISSION



Policy-Making Body - Receive Reports of Staff - Attend Conferences - Conduct Public Hearings - Formulate Recommendations.

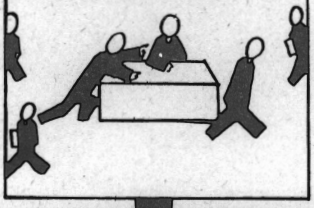
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

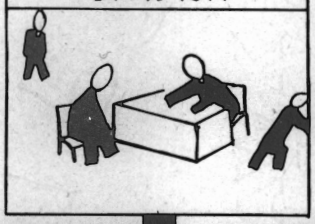
STAFF

STATISTICS AND RESEARCH DIVISION



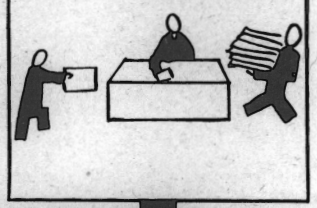
To survey and examine the various fields of activity and living conditions of the colored population of this State; analyze results of surveys; compile statistical data and establish a dependable laboratory of accurate information regarding housing, health, education, culture, education, employment and other social, political and economical welfare of the Negro citizens of this State.

PUBLIC RELATIONS DIVISION



To prepare reports and publish results of the Commission's findings; to prepare news releases and issue publications; to develop all good-will contacts tending to create democratic thinking and practices among the citizens of this State; to utilize all available mediums of influencing public thought for the purpose of developing a comprehensive democratic program within this State.

CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION



To receive and investigate all reports of discriminatory practices and violations of those sections of the Civil Rights Laws of this State which prohibit discrimination against a per- because of race, color, religion or national origin.

FUNCTIONS

To secure for the colored population of this State equal opportunity with the general population for self-support, economical and cultural development.

To initiate procedure for the elimination of prevailing inequalities through conferences, public hearings, conciliation and persuasion.

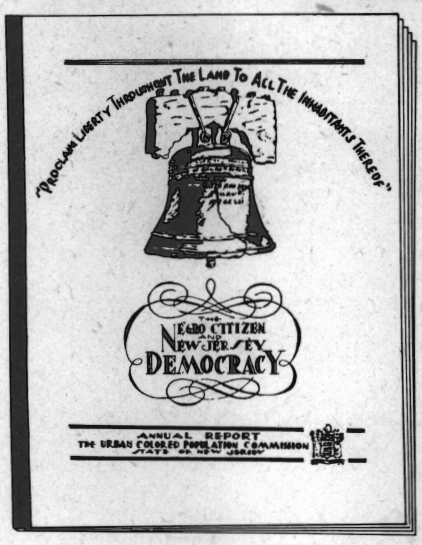
To investigate and prepare reports of situations where adjustment is beyond the limitations of this Commission and refer such cases of unlawful discriminatory practices to other departments for the purpose of invoking legislative and judicial action.

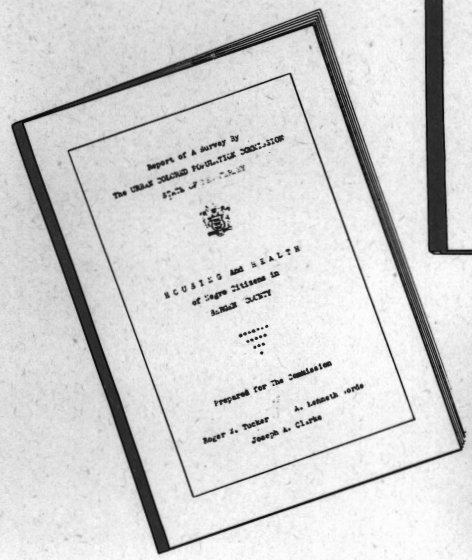
To formulate and reccomend to the Governor and Legislature such other measures deemed needed to improve the living and economical conditions of the colored population of this State.

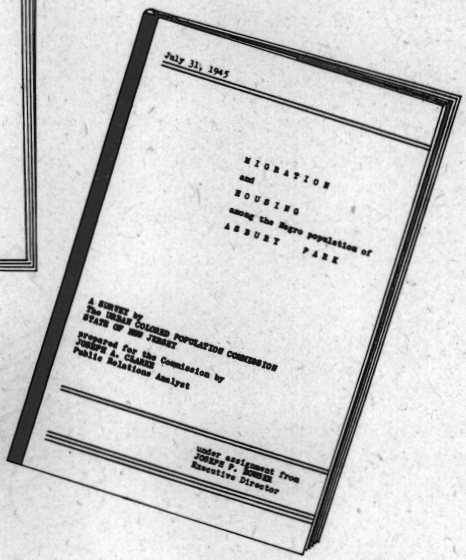
PART III

REVIEWING ACTIVITIES OF 1945

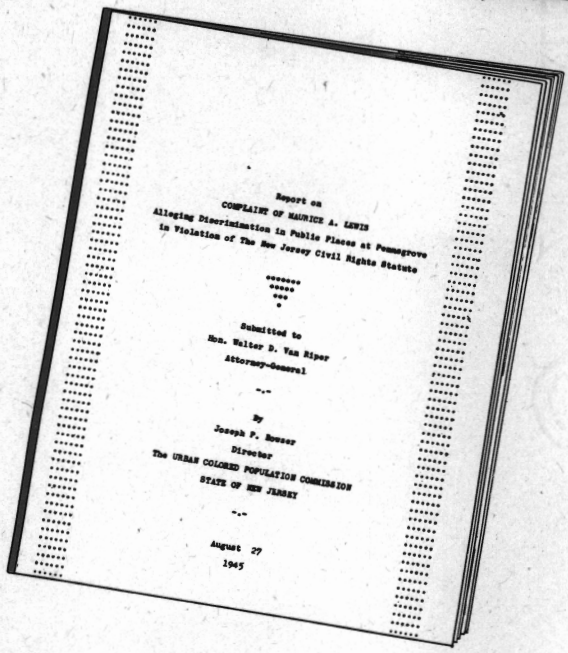

PUBLICATIONS
of
1945
REPORTS
SURVEYS
RELEASES

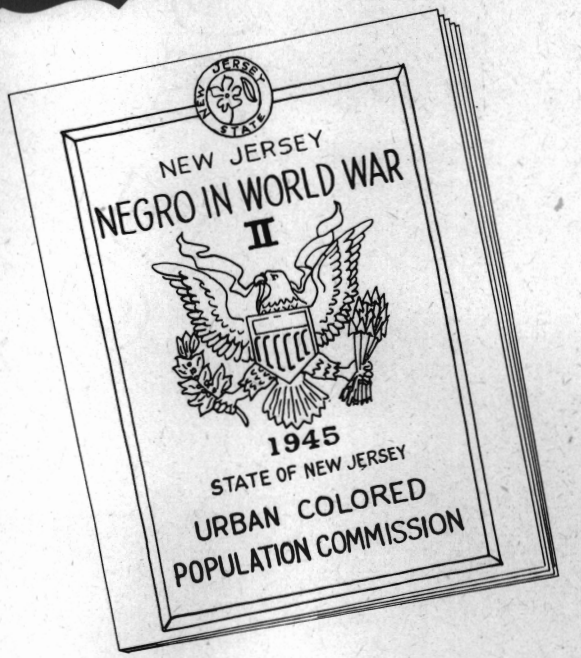




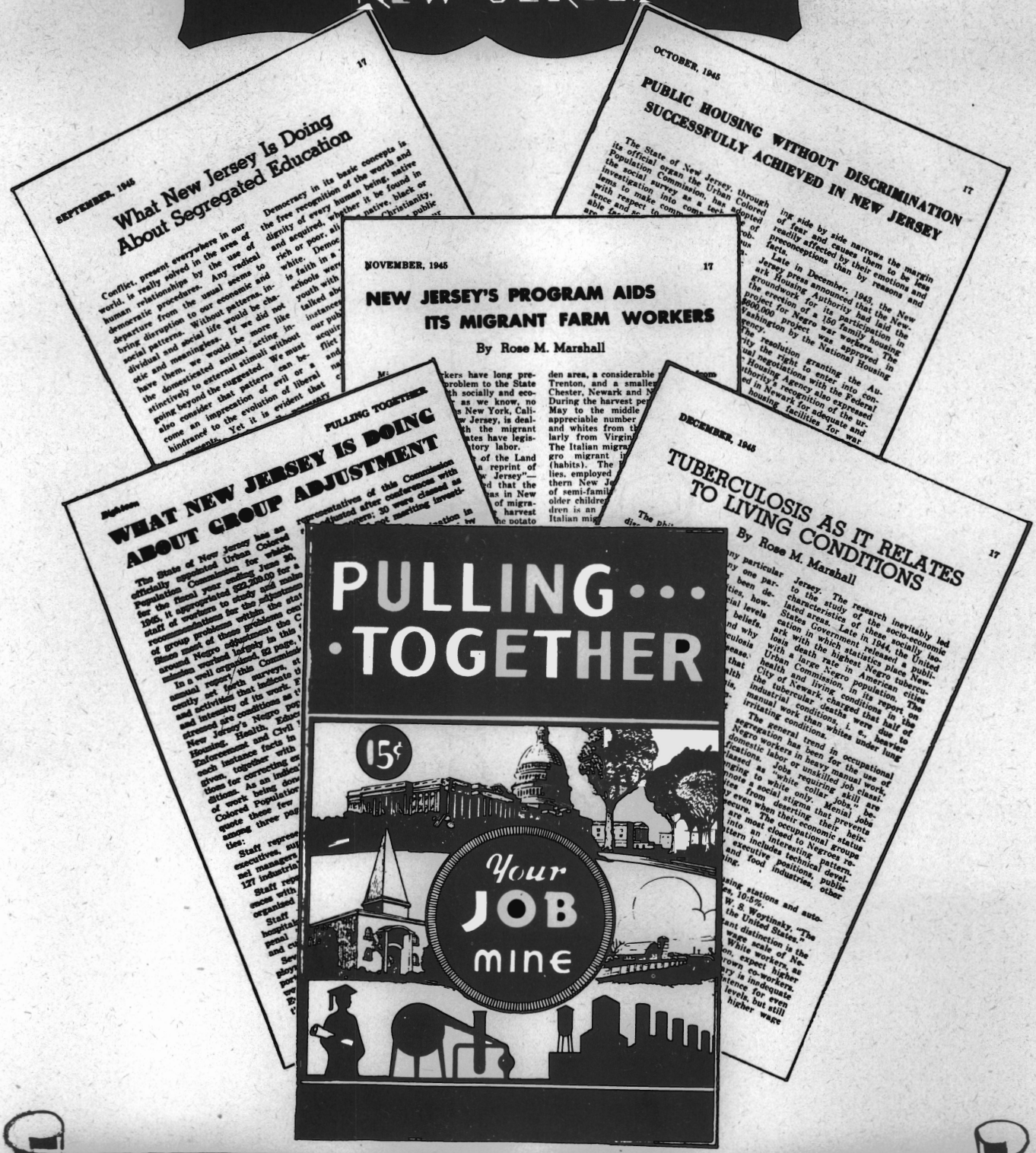


Reports of These Surveys By Staff Members of This Commission Were Released in Book Form.

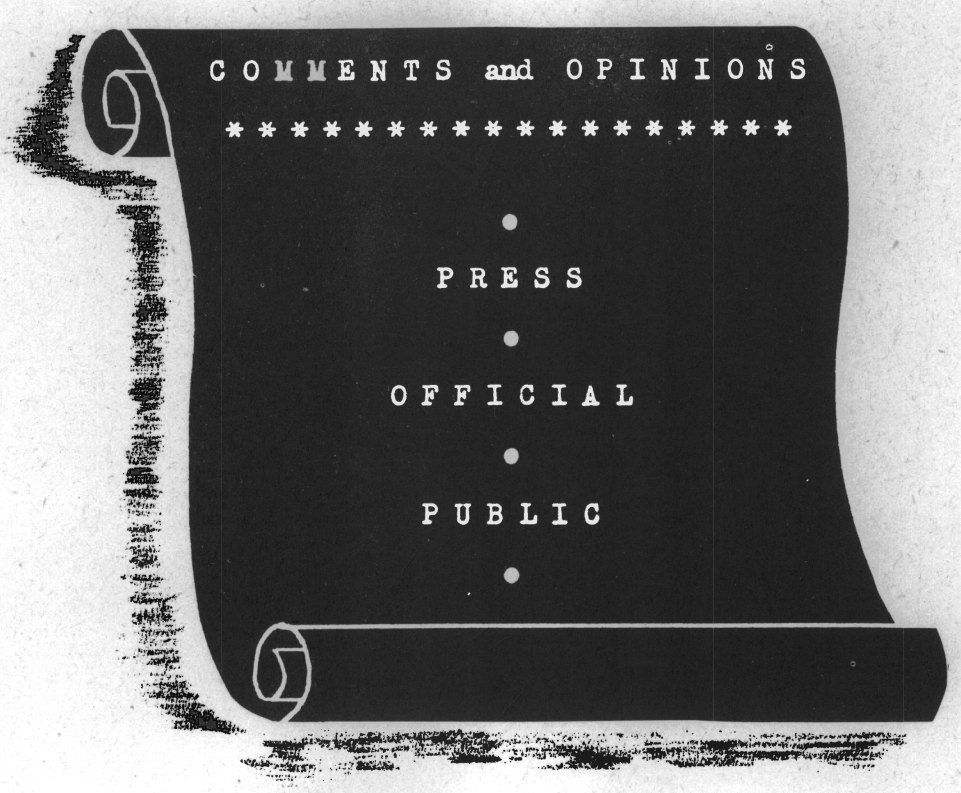




The Story of Democracy On The March in New Jersey



The Story of "DEMOCRACY ON THE MARCH IN NEW JERSEY", A Series of Feature Articles Based upon Reports of Surveys And Other Data Compiled By Staff Workers of The URBAN COLORED POPULATION COMMISSION, Appears Monthly in "PULLING TOGETHER", A Nationally-Circulated And Widely-Read Magazine.


COMMENTS and OPINIONS
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
PRESS
OFFICIAL
PUBLIC

NEW JERSEY HERALD NEWS

Saturday, December 15, 1495

The State We're In

By O. W. "BUTTS" BROWN

A GREAT VICTORY

One truly fine victory won last year by the Urban Welfare Commission was the fight to have colored girls admitted to the dormitories at Glassboro Teachers College. Here is a state school that had barred our girls from using these buildings since its establishment in 1922.

The commission began investigating the situation early in 1943, and called the discrimination to the attention of Dr. Edgar Bunce, principal of the college in a letter dated February 1, 1943.

Dr. Bunce informed the commission that "the dormitories are conducted not by the state, but by the Dormitory Association, an incorporated body consisting of the students who reside at the dormitory. He further pointed out that when he proposed housing a number of colored girls in the dormitory, the "association protested vigorously and many letters were received by me from parents of the white students voicing opposition to the proposed move, threatening to remove their daughters from the college, etc." He concluded his letter by stating that if the Commissioner of Education made the request he would change the custom.

The commission immediately informed the Commissioner of Education of the contems of Dr. Bunce's letter on February 5th. On February 8th, Dr. Bunce wrote the commission informing it that on that date several colored girls had been admitted to the dormitory.

Here was a victory that received very little press comment but its signficance cannot be overstated. For in seven days a detestable practice of 21 years standing had been abolished because a state agency had the courage and determination to fight for justice and fair play for our colored girls in this state-supported institution. This is the only way Negroes can hope to get the rights and privileges guaranteed by the constitution. "Eternal vigilance is still the price of liberty."

THE WEATHER
Rain and much cooler.

ASBURY PARK SUNDAY PRESS

THE SHORE PRESS

Help the Community By Helping the Community Chest

VOLUME LXVII. No. 12 ASBURY PARK, N. J., SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1945 PRICE FIVE CENTS

State Survey Shows West Side Presents Major Problem for City

A serious health menace and a breeding place for juvenile delinquency exists in the 75 acres, crowded with an estimated 4,377 persons, predominately colored, on the west side of Asbury Park, says a report of a survey made by the state urban colored population commission.

In that small area many families live in houses constructed as summer cottages, without adequate heat or proper sanitation or in over crowded sub-standard buildings without necessary ventilation, the report asserts. Civic minded citizens and persons in the upper income bracket must live beside the irresponsible persons who care little where they live, because almost every known attempt of Negroes to rent or purchase homes elsewhere in the city has failed.

A liberal interspersion of white residents thruout nearly all the blocks of this section saves the area from being strictly labeled a "circumscribed, segregated negro section."

Conditions such as these are mainly responsible for the Negro infant mortality rate of 59.5 per 1,000 against the 31.4 per 1,000 of the white population. It also partially explains the tuberculosis rate of 185.5 per 100,000 among the Negroes as against 35.6 per 100,000 for the white population, and corresponding maternal mortality rates are 4.1 for the Negro population against 1.9 for the white population.

According to the survey made in July of this year, the report of which was prepared for the commission by Joseph A. Clarke, public relations analyst and Asbury Park newspaperman, the population of the "West Side" is increasing.

The survey estimates are based on the sixteenth United States census taken in 1940.

The West Side which has had no permanent housing construction since 1941, has been severely taxed by the war which has brought large numbers of persons to this area who have been employed in government works.

The survey explains that large numbers of Negro students from Southern states were brought to work in the Signal Corps laboratories. Also settling down in this area, often with their families, were the Negro personnel of the Earle Naval Ammunition depot, which often numbered 4,000 men, and coast guards men stationed in nearby towns who had families, established living quarters in Asbury Park.

Some May Leave

Altho many of these families may leave now that the war has ended, the survey states that many of the Negro population are now and have been employed in plants where formerly they might have been barred because of color, but have now have been accepted because of the Fair Employment Practices committee and the New Jersey Stackhouse law which prohibits discrimination. Many of these people attracted by jobs, will remain in this area.

"In July," the survey states, "the Asbury Park United States Employment Service offices of the

(See SURVEY Page 13)

Survey

(Continued from Page 1)

War Manpower commission reported job-placements in the industries of the area averaging about 550 per month. Of this number, an estimated 150 to 175 were Negro workers."

Service allotments, high wages at continuous employment and war bond purchases have made the market for the purchase of homes among the Negro population at its highest.

The survey says that "38.6 percent of the 275 new-comers to the West Side" since 1941, who were interviewed, expressed a financial abiffity and desire to purchase homes. Estimating an increase of 864 in the Negro population since 1941, this survey indicates that there maybe 334 new prospective Negro home-owners in Asbury Park today who wish to purchase desirable property of standard values and who possess the financial ability to do so, if such property were available."

A total of 567 servicemen were inducted from this area, and as veterans they are entitled under the G.I. Bill of Rights to loans for the purpose of purchasing a home.

According to the survey "statistics from typical slum areas of municipal communities have revealed that every 2.5 percent of the population that resides in slums are responsible for:

6.5 percent of the city's police department expense.

7.3 percent of the city's social service appropriation.

14.1 percent of the operational cost of the fire department.

21.3 percent of the city's crime and delinquency.

"Ruinous Liability"

"In Asbury Park, where the Negro population is slightly less than 25 percent of the total population, and with 95 percent of the Negro population residing within a blighted deteriorating area, the cost of slums, by the above, accepted statistics, should certainly be considered a ruinous liability, and a most prohibitive threat to the city's solvency."

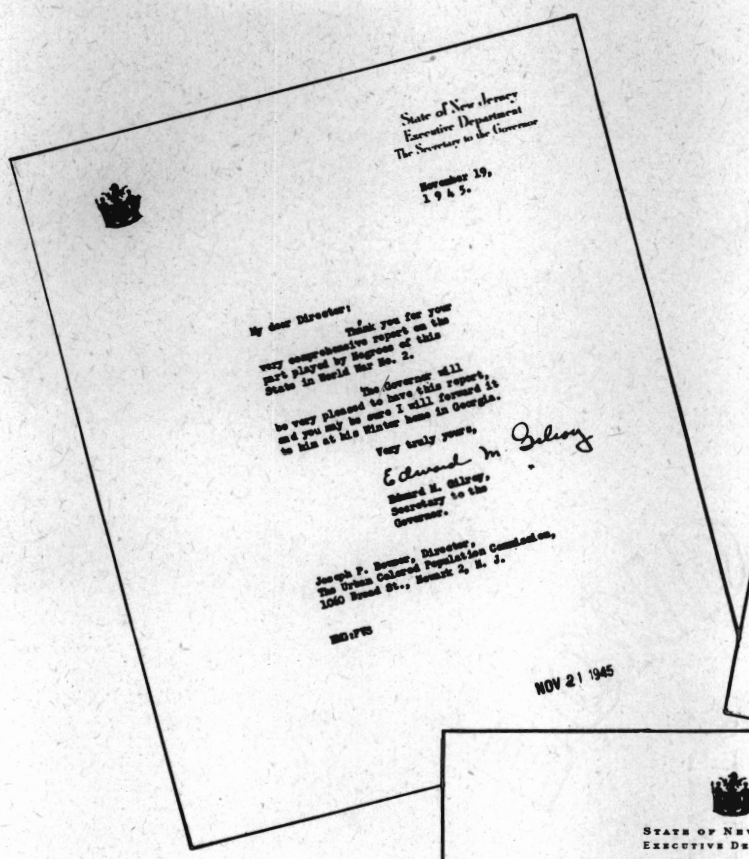
The only recent project for the relief of this area was the Asbury Park village, non-white, built thru the application of the Asbury Park Housing Authority to the Federal Public Housing administration of the National Housing agency, at a cost of $760,000, and occupied in January 1941. It provided 126 dwelling units and accommodate 500 of the city's Negroes, while eliminating 108 standard units. Admittedly an improvement, it supplied only a small portion of the 500 applications filed in 1939 with the local housing authority.

An advantage in a project such as this is that the "financial returns to the city's treasury which the federal government pays in lieu of taxes, exceeds the amount of revenue which the city received from taxation upon properties located in slum areas," the survey states.

It is obvious that Asbury Park will benefit directly by cleaning up the West Side. The Asbury Park Housing Authority has filed an application with the Federal Public Housing administration for financial assistance to construct a low-rent housing project which will provide an additional 150 dwelling units for Negro occupancy on the West Side, but that is the only work planned in this area.

The survey suggests that the "city planners recognize the existence of two aspects of primary importance: the need of publicly-subsidized housing, developed under the program of the local Housing authority with FPHA assistance for the low income groups, and the construction of homes by private developers, financial institutions and construction firms under the H-2 progra mof the FHA to permit prospective home-owners of the upper and highest income-bracket groups of the Negro population to purchase standard, modern and desirable property."

The H-2 program is a plan of private housing whereby the government guarantees the mortgage loan upon the approval of project by the FHA. Housing is the only solution of the slum areas on the West Side.



State of New Jersey
Executive Department
The Secretary to the Governor

November 19,
1945.

My dear Director:

Thank you for your very comprehensive report on the part played by Negroes of this State in World War No. 2.

The Governor will be very pleased to have this report, and you may be sure I will forward it to him at his Winter home in Georgia.

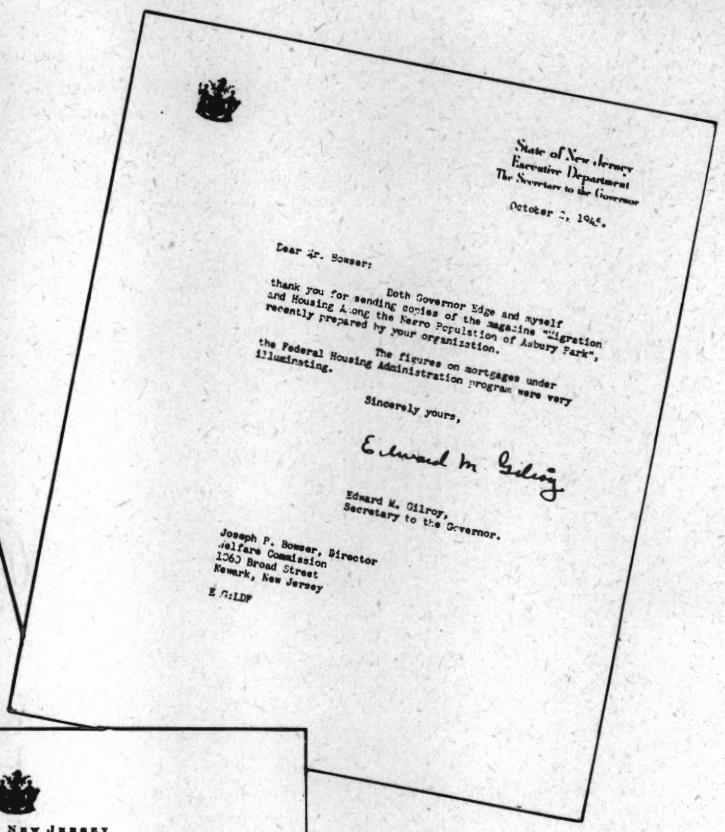
Very truly yours,

Edward M. Gilroy,
Secretary to the
Governor.

Joseph P. Bowser, Director,
The Urban Colored Population Commission,
1060 Broad St., Newark 2, N. J.

EMG:FH

NOV 21 1945



State of New Jersey
Executive Department
The Secretary to the Governor

October 2, 1945.

Dear Mr. Bowser:

Both Governor Edge and myself thank you for sending copies of the magazine "Migration and Housing Along the Negro Population of Asbury Park", recently prepared by your organization.

The figures on mortgages under the Federal Housing Administration program were very illuminating.

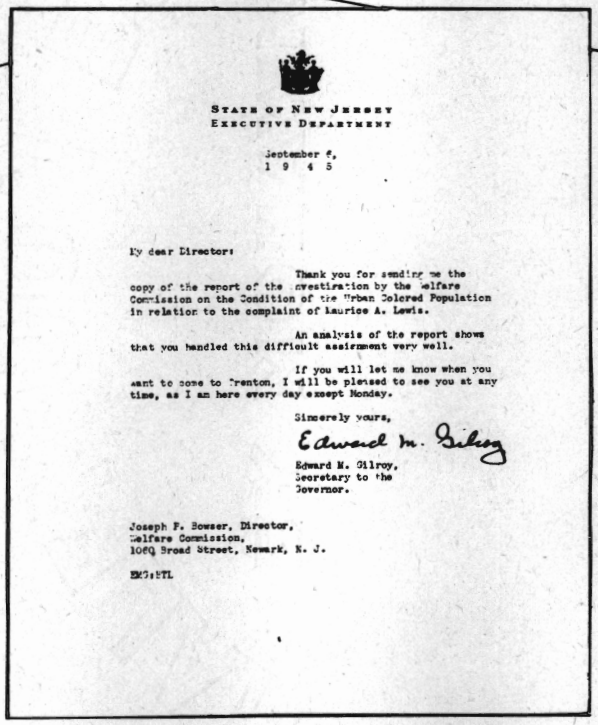
Sincerely yours,

Edward M. Gilroy

Edward M. Gilroy,
Secretary to the Governor.

Joseph P. Bowser, Director
Welfare Commission
1060 Broad Street
Newark, New Jersey

E.M.G:LDF



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

September 6,
1 9 4 5

My dear Director:

Thank you for sending me the copy of the report of the investigation by the Welfare Commission on the Condition of the Urban Colored Population in relation to the complaint of Maurice A. Lewis.

An analysis of the report shows that you handled this difficult assignment very well.

If you will let me know when you want to come to Trenton, I will be pleased to see you at any time, as I am here every day except Monday.

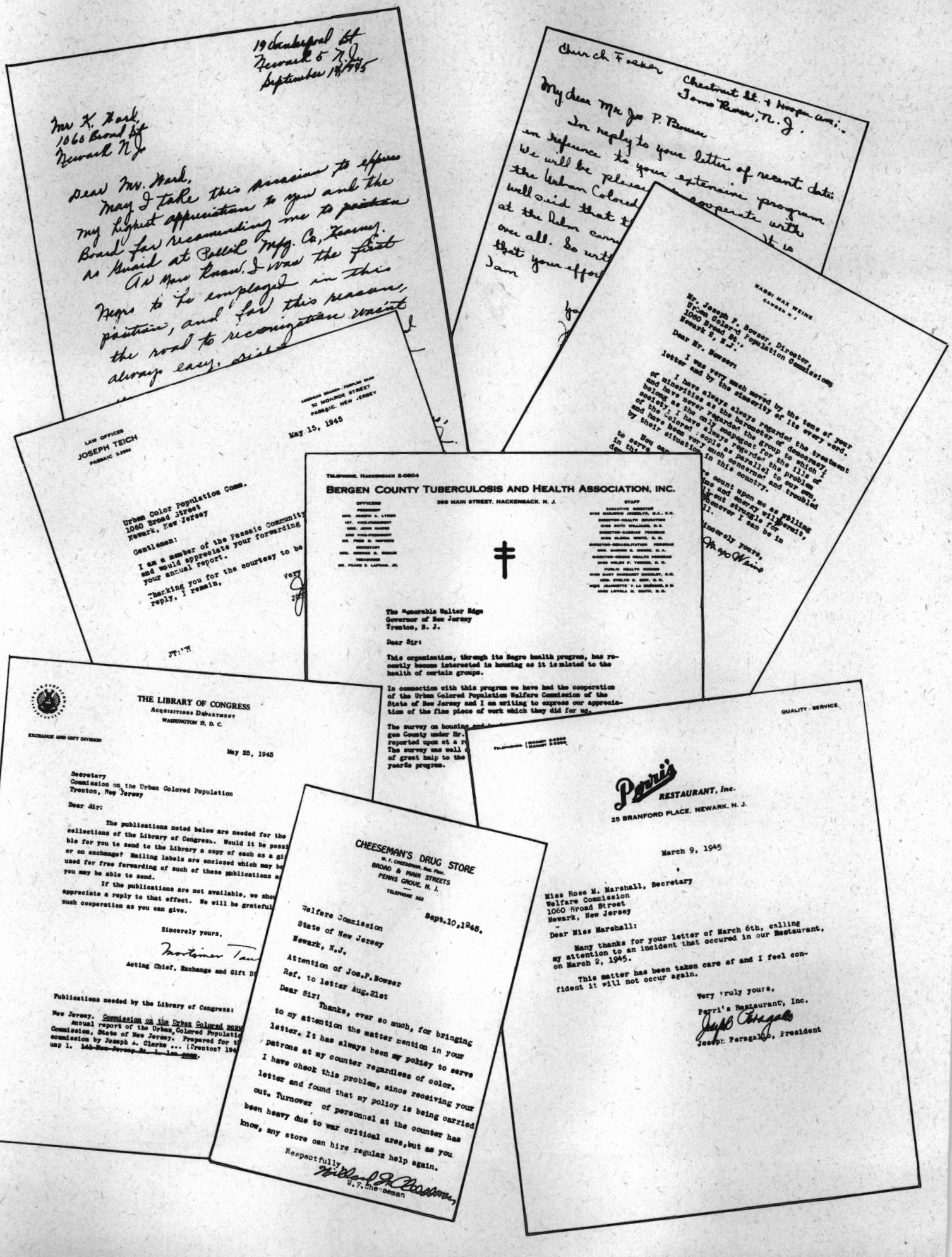
Sincerely yours,

Edward M. Gilroy

Edward M. Gilroy,
Secretary to the
Governor.

Joseph P. Bowser, Director,
Welfare Commission,
1060 Broad Street, Newark, N. J.

EMG:ETL



19 Lanksford St
Newark 5 N.J.
September 18, 1945

Mr K. Hark,
1060 Broad St
Newark N.J.

Dear Mr. Hark,
May I take this occasion to express my highest appreciation to you and the Board for recommending me to painters as Guard at Public Mfg. Co, Kearny. As you know, I was the first Negro to be employed in this painting, and for this reason, the road to recognition wasn't always easy, either

Church Federation
Chestnut St. & Hooper Ave.
Jersey Shore, N.J.

My dear Mr Joe P. Bowser
In reply to your letter of recent date in reference to your extension program We will be pleased to cooperate with the Urban Colored
well said that
at the Urban
over all. So
that your
I am

LAW OFFICES
JOSEPH TEICH
PASSAIC 2-2554

AMERICAN BRANCH - PEARLER BANK
50 MONROE STREET
PASSAIC, NEW JERSEY

May 15, 1945

Urban Color Population Comm.
1060 Broad Street
Newark, New Jersey

Gentleman:
I am a member of the Passaic Community
and would appreciate your forwarding
your annual report.
Thanking you for the courtesy to be
reply, I remain,
Very

JT:'W

RABBI MAX WEINE
CAMDEN, N.J.

Mr. Joseph P. Bowser, Director,
Urban Colored Population Commission
1060 Broad St.,
Newark 2, N.J.

Dear Mr. Bowser:
I was very much moved by the tone of your letter and by the sincerity of its every word.
I have always always regarded the treatment of minorities as the barometer of democracy, and have never regarded the group to which I belong as the only oppressed people. The life of society, I have always regarded as parallel to problem of the Colored people and have concerned and troubled and have been very much perplexed in this country.
by their situation
We can count upon me as willing
to serve in this
and energy will permit,
all our struggle for
democracy. Wherever I can be in
all.
Sincerely yours,
Max Weine

TELEPHONE, HACKENSACK 2-0804

BERGEN COUNTY TUBERCULOSIS AND HEALTH ASSOCIATION, INC.

300 MAIN STREET, HACKENSACK, N. J.

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MRS. JOSEPH A. LYDON
1ST. VICE-PRESIDENT
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MRS. JEANNETTE T. LA BRENZA, R.N.
MRS. LOYOLA H. SMITH, R.N.

The Honorable Walter Edge
Governor of New Jersey
Trenton, N. J.

Dear Sir:
This organization, through its Negro health program, has recently become interested in housing as it is related to the health of certain groups.
In connection with this program we have had the cooperation of the Urban Colored Population Welfare Commission of the State of New Jersey and I am writing to express our appreciation of the fine piece of work which they did for us.
The survey on housing and
gen County under Mr.
reported upon at a r
The survey was well
of great help to the
years's program.

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
Acquisitions Department
Washington 25, D. C.

EXCHANGE AND GIFT DIVISION

May 25, 1945

Secretary
Commission on the Urban Colored Population
Trenton, New Jersey

Dear Sir:
The publications noted below are needed for the collections of the Library of Congress. Would it be possible for you to send to the Library a copy of each as a gift or on exchange? Mailing labels are enclosed which may be used for free forwarding of such of these publications as you may be able to send.
If the publications are not available, we should appreciate a reply to that effect. We will be grateful for such cooperation as you can give.

Sincerely yours,
Mortimer Taube
Acting Chief, Exchange and Gift Division

Publications needed by the Library of Congress:
New Jersey. Commission on the Urban Colored Popu
Annual report of the Urban Colored Populatio
Commission, State of New Jersey. Prepared for t
Commission by Joseph A. Clarke ... [Trenton? 194
ump 1. ~~Ltd Soc-Jersey-St. - 1. ter pamp~~.

CHEESEMAN'S DRUG STORE
W. F. CHEESEMAN, Reg. Phar.
BROAD & MAIN STREETS
PENNS GROVE, N. J.
TELEPHONE 342

Sept.10,1945.

Welfare Commission
State of New Jersey
Newark, N.J.
Attention of Joe.P.Bowser
Ref. to letter Aug.21st
Dear Sir:
Thanks, ever so much, for bringing to my attention the matter mention in your letter. It has always been my policy to serve patrons at my counter regardless of color. I have check this problem, since receiving your letter and found that my policy is being carried out. Turnover of personnel at the counter has been heavy due to war critical area, but as you know, any store can hire regular help again.
Respectfully
W. F. Cheeseman

QUALITY - SERVICE

TELEPHONES { MARKET 2-2222 / MARKET 2-2223

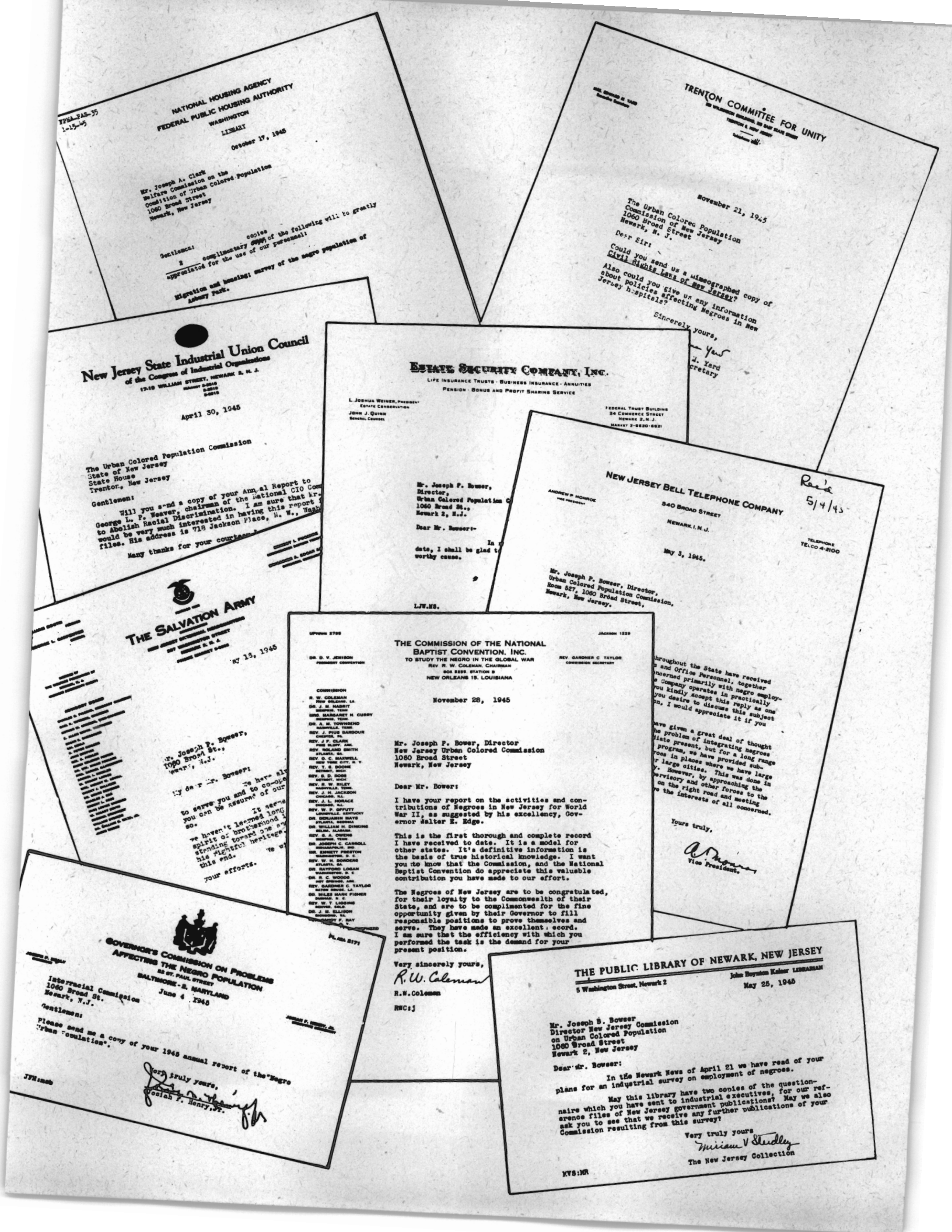
Perri's
RESTAURANT, Inc.
25 BRANFORD PLACE, NEWARK, N. J.

March 9, 1945

Miss Rose M. Marshall, Secretary
Welfare Commission
1060 Broad Street
Newark, New Jersey

Dear Miss Marshall:
Many thanks for your letter of March 6th, calling my attention to an incident that occured in our Restaurant, on March 2, 1945.
This matter has been taken care of and I feel confident it will not occur again.

Very truly yours,
Perri's Restaurant, Inc.
Joseph Peragallo
Joseph Peragallo, President



NATIONAL HOUSING AGENCY
FEDERAL PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY
WASHINGTON
LIBRARY
October 17, 1945

Mr. Joseph A. Clark
Welfare Commission on the
Condition of Urban Colored Population
1060 Broad Street
Newark, New Jersey

Gentlemen:

copies
complimentary copy of the following will be greatly
appreciated for the use of our personnel:

Migration and housing: survey of the negro population of Asbury Park.

TRENTON COMMITTEE FOR UNITY

November 21, 1945

The Urban Colored Population
Commission of New Jersey
1060 Broad Street
Newark, N. J.

Dear Sir:

Could you send us a mimeographed copy of Civil Rights Laws of New Jersey?

Also could you give us any information about policies affecting Negroes in New Jersey hospitals?

Sincerely yours,

J. Yard
Secretary

New Jersey State Industrial Union Council
of the Congress of Industrial Organizations
17-19 WILLIAM STREET, NEWARK 2, N. J.

April 30, 1945

The Urban Colored Population Commission
State of New Jersey
State House
Trenton, New Jersey

Gentlemen:

Will you send a copy of your Annual Report to George L. P. Weaver, chairman of the National CIO Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination. I am sure that Mr. would be very much interested in having this report for files. His address is 718 Jackson Place, N. W., Washington

Many thanks for your courtesy

ESTATE SECURITY COMPANY, INC.
LIFE INSURANCE TRUSTS · BUSINESS INSURANCE · ANNUITIES
PENSION · BONUS AND PROFIT SHARING SERVICE

L. JOSHUA WEINER, PRESIDENT
ESTATE CONSERVATION
JOHN J. QUINN
GENERAL COUNSEL

FEDERAL TRUST BUILDING
24 COMMERCE STREET
NEWARK 2, N. J.
MARKET 2-8830-8831

Mr. Joseph P. Bower,
Director,
Urban Colored Population C
1060 Broad St.,
Newark 2, N.J.

Dear Mr. Bower:-

In
date, I shall be glad t
worthy cause.

LJW:MS.

NEW JERSEY BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY
540 BROAD STREET
NEWARK 1, N. J.

Read 5/4/45

ANDREW P. MONROE
VICE PRESIDENT

TELEPHONE
TELCO 4-2100

May 3, 1945.

Mr. Joseph P. Bowser, Director,
Urban Colored Population Commission,
Room 827, 1060 Broad Street,
Newark, New Jersey.

hroughout the State have received
and Office Personnel, together
oncerned primarily with negro employ-
s Company operates in practically
ou kindly accept this reply as one
you desire to discuss this subject
on, I would appreciate it if you

ave given a great deal of thought
he problem of integrating negroes
iats present, but for a long range
program, we have provided sub-
roes in places where we have large
r large cities. This was done in
y. However, by approaching the
ervisory and other forces to the
on the right road and meeting
e the interests of all concerned.

Yours truly,

Vice President.

THE SALVATION ARMY

May 15, 1945

Mr. Joseph P. Bowser,
1060 Broad St.,
Newark, N.J.

My dear Mr. Bowser:

to serve you and to co
you can be assured of our

so.

We haven't learned long
spirit of brotherhood
standing toward one
his rightful heritage
this end.

your efforts.

THE COMMISSION OF THE NATIONAL
BAPTIST CONVENTION, INC.
TO STUDY THE NEGRO IN THE GLOBAL WAR
REV R. W. COLEMAN, CHAIRMAN
BOX 8295, STATION B
NEW ORLEANS 15, LOUISIANA

UPtown 5795 JAckson 1229

DR. D. V. JEMISON
PRESIDENT CONVENTION

REV. GARDNER C. TAYLOR
COMMISSION SECRETARY

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REV. W. Y. LIGGINS
NORFOLK, VA.
DR. J. H. ELLISON
RICHMOND, VA.
DR. J. P. GAY
[illegible]

November 28, 1945

Mr. Joseph P. Bower, Director
New Jersey Urban Colored Commission
1060 Broad Street
Newark, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Bower:

I have your report on the activities and contributions of Negroes in New Jersey for World War II, as suggested by his excellency, Governor Walter E. Edge.

This is the first thorough and complete record I have received to date. It is a model for other states. It's definitive information is the basis of true historical knowledge. I want you to know that the Commission, and the National Baptist Convention do appreciate this valuable contribution you have made to our effort.

The Negroes of New Jersey are to be congratulated, for their loyalty to the Commonwealth of their State, and are to be complimented for the fine opportunity given by their Governor to fill responsible positions to prove themselves and serve. They have made an excellent record. I am sure that the efficiency with which you performed the task is the demand for your present position.

Very sincerely yours,

R.W. Coleman

R.W.Coleman

RWC:j

GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON PROBLEMS
AFFECTING THE NEGRO POPULATION
22 ST. PAUL STREET
BALTIMORE 2, MARYLAND

June 4, 1945

Interracial Commission
1060 Broad St.
Newark, N.J.

Gentlemen:

Please send me a copy of your 1945 annual report of the "Negro Urban Population".

Very truly yours,

Josiah P. Henry, Jr.

JPH:mab

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY
5 Washington Street, Newark 2
John Boynton Kaiser LIBRARIAN

May 25, 1945

Mr. Joseph P. Bowser
Director New Jersey Commission
on Urban Colored Population
1060 Broad Street
Newark 2, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Bowser:

In the Newark News of April 21 we have read of your plans for an industrial survey on employment of negroes.

May this library have two copies of the questionnaire which you have sent to industrial executives, for our reference files of New Jersey government publications? May we also ask you to see that we receive any further publications of your Commission resulting from this survey?

Very truly yours

Miriam V. Studley

The New Jersey Collection

KVS:MR

PART IV

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PROPOSING A MAJOR PROGRAM FOR 1946

A MAJOR PROGRAM

"IT IS IMPORTANT AND RIGHT THAT ALL PRIVILEGES OF THE LAW BE OURS, BUT IT IS VASTLY MORE IMPORTANT THAT WE BE PREPARED FOR THE EXERCISE OF THOSE PRIVILEGES."

Booker T. Washington



A MAJOR PROGRAM

Destroying The Falsely-Grounded Sanctions upon Which Justification for Discrimination Is Sought

When the true democratic security so ardently desired by the fair-minded and patriotic citizens develops in New Jersey, it will be due, in a large measure, to the rational comprehension of the inter-racial and intra-racial problems, and the quiet, vital and promising progress towards logical adjustments made by the State-initiated programs.

In honestly facing the issues of inter-racial relations today, the existence of two aspects of primary importance are generally recognized.

The attitude of reluctance in an element of the dominate, majority group to accord the colored minority group anything other than a "second class" citizenship has been the focus against which the greater concentration of inter-racial programs has been directed, and is being continuously attacked with re-inforced vigor of increasing forces.

Fortunately, this attitude that holds little or no respect for the minority citizen's rights, personality or aspirations , and entertains no obligation to grant to him more than a minimum of democracy's opportunities is not the philosophy accepted by an increasing number of liberal citizens.

However, this view does previal among a superficial and too large segment of the New Jersey citizenry, and every resource must be utilized in an uncompromising campaign to make the virtues of democracy mean something more than empty, insincere words.

Inevitably linked with the fundamental essentials to better understanding and race-relations, another obvious need has become distressingly acute. There can be, no longer, any pretense about the increasing and alarming danger that threatens ultimate success of inter-racial programs by non-conformity with society's established rules of good, public behavior, observed too frequently in individual public conduct among the minority group.

Irresponsible acts that incite friction, disreputable and unseeming habits of the uncouth and other inexcusable traits that lend credence to the fallacious doctrine of inherent inferiority must be recognized as formidable threats, and effective means must be advanced to discourage such tendencies.

Members of this Commission evaluate and recognize in these basic problems of human and group relations broad opportunities and a prime requisite for a vitalized intra-racial program.

Ideal inter-racial co-operation, members of this Commission believe, involve nothing more than a willingness

of the majority group to treat the minority group simply as respected fellow-citizens entitled to an equal enjoyment of the rights and privileges of democracy, an equal share in the responsibilities and obligations of democracy, and a joint trusteeship in the preservation of democracy.

> "It is important and right that all privileges of the Law be ours, but it is vastly more important that we be prepared for the exercise of those privileges."

In a major program to intensify its activities in this direction during the year, this Commission will seek a two-fold objective:

(1) The improvement of those intra-racial attitudes out of which unfavorable inter-racial conditions grow.

(2) Elimination of falsely-grounded sanctions in our social beliefs upon which justification for discrimination against the minority group is sought.

Members of this Commission conclude, after exhaustive study and analysis in this specific field, that widespread discrimination in public places against the colored population could not continue so shamefully ignored except for the existence of certain sanctions in our social beliefs which inspire the offenders to believe confidently that their discriminatory policies are demanded, approved and supported by a justification in principle which is shared by a ruling proportion of the people of the community.

Principal of these sanctions, underlying the false

premises upon which justification for discrimination is sought, is the common fallacy that uncleanliness, uncouth vulgarity and other undesirable characteristics are hereditary and racial traits, plus the myth of racial superiority which must be nurtured by segregation and other acts of discrimination.

Destroying these social sanctions becomes a fundamental problem inviting and demanding specific techniques of an energetic, major program. Consequently, members of this Commission, as part of its work-program for this year, plan to enlist the support of all enlightened citizens who are concerned about the continued expansion of the democratic processes, and urge upon them the importance of a campaign to attack systematically the grounds and justification upon which discrimination in public places depends.

The primary aim sought and desired by the Commissioners will be the development of intelligent convictions with sufficient determination to be spoken out with vigor, ingenuously weaved and soundly transplanted in proper and significant places, marshalling an increasing force of crusaders with strong, democratic convictions, moral courage and a willingness to put these convictions into action.

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