

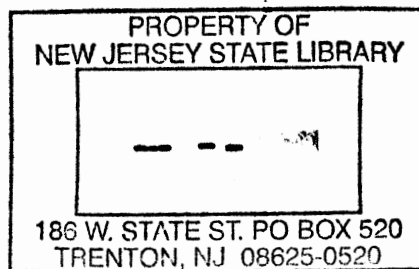
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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
URBAN COLORED POPULATION COMMISSION

Now - with the unconditional surrender of totalitarian and fascist forces some two years behind - the complex patterns of contradiction and paradox as reflected and interpreted in the status of America's own Negro Citizens remain the most critical issue in the Aftermath of America's unfinished business of world-wide crusading for Democracy.



ANNUAL REPORT
to the
Governor and The Legislature
of the
State of New Jersey
1947



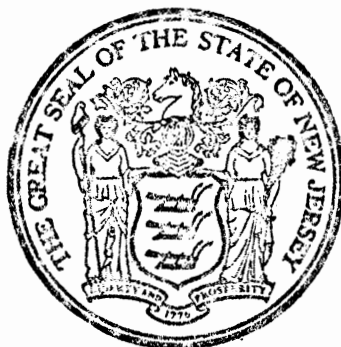
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
URBAN COLORED POPULATION COMMISSION

Fifth
Annual Report
To the
GOVERNOR AND THE LEGISLATURE
of the
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

For The Year Ending June 30

1947

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
THE URBAN COLORED POPULATION COMMISSION



(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.

*

MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION

Mrs. Sarah Spencer Washington, Chairman
Atlantic City
(Term Expires Apr. 12, 1950)

Richard L. Martin, Vice Chairman Dr. Edgar S. Ballou
Jersey City Montclair
(Term Expired Jan. 19, 1947) (Term Expires Oct. 12, 1947)

--

JOSEPH P. BOWSER
Director

JOSEPH A. CLARKE
Assistant Director

ROGER W. TUCKER
Senior Investigator

A. KENNETH WORDE LEE D. WRIGHT WILLIAM H. MALLOY
C. R. HIGHTOWER ODIE G. WALKER
HORACE E. ROBINSON

F O R E W O R D

From the beginning, the legislated authority and the intense interest of the Urban Colored Population Commission have been the improvement of the economic, cultural, health and living conditions of New Jersey's Negro population with an ultimate goal of securing for the Negro population full, integrated participation and enjoyment of all the rights, privileges and benefits of democratic citizenship without discrimination, solely, because of race, creed or color.

With Democracy in Human Relations the most perturbing problem gripping the attention, conscience and energies of America today, it is absurd to expect that this Commission's studies and reports concerning problems and issues so controversial as interracial relations and equality of opportunities would satisfy all elements of an aroused and alarmed citizenry.

It is also inevitable that this Commission's investigations and reports upon the numerous complaints and protests of alleged violations of the State's Civil Rights laws would fall short of the expectations of some portions of the citizenry suffering direct effects of discriminatory practices.

While remaining uncompromising in the attitude that the New Jersey Statutes should be impartially applied and enforced, members of this Commission have attempted to adhere closely to an established policy of functioning as a technical, operating agency seeking statistical data and scientific facts relating to specific, social and civic problems; and resisting the strong temptation to exalt either the positive forces tending to strengthen democracy or to indulge in over-emphasized criticism of the negative forces tending to undermine the vitality of democracy.

Perhaps the most hopeful development in Race Relations Trends in New Jersey is reflected in the state-wide mobilization at community levels of local organizations and agencies for constructive activity to promote better interracial understanding. Since progress towards true democracy depends largely upon a willingness of the majority group to recognize and respect an obligation to grant the minority group an equal share of democracy's opportunities - it is in this field that this Commission, perhaps, has made its most constructive and easily measured contributions.

To some extent, this mobilization of organizations at community levels has occurred as a result of mutual interest; experiences gained from wartime necessity to eliminate many discriminatory practices or from a planned, postwar program to consolidate wartime gains.

To a large extent, however, we are happy to state that this Commission's effective programs have been accredited publicly for directing this mobilization into actual and forceful community influences.

Investigation of conditions in communities which violate New Jersey's Civil Rights laws or which contradict basic principles of religion and democracy - initiating processes for the correction of these practices and doing the scientific fact-finding necessary for local program-planning for the community organizations will continue to be a major phase of this Commission's program to build a true and vitalized Democracy in New Jersey.



State of New Jersey
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
DIRECTOR
JOSEPH A. CLARKE
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

April 21
1947

To His Excellency, Alfred E. Driscoll
Governor of the State of New Jersey
And
To The Senate And General Assembly of New Jersey

Sirs:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 192, Laws of 1941, we are transmitting, herewith, a report of the sixth year of operation of the Urban Colored Population Commission.

The members of this Commission think it is highly significant that our offices have received inquiries in unexpected volumes from many State Administrations in other parts of the country seeking advice and guidance from the patterns established in New Jersey to improve the relationship among varied groups of the population. Reports of our studies in the field of race relations have been requested and have received commendable appraisal from almost all of the major universities and colleges in the country.

We are happy to report that, perhaps, the most gratifying expressions of appreciation for our endeavors to stimulate progress towards an ideal democratic state of justice and equality of opportunity for all citizens regardless of race, creed or color have come from within our own State borders.

We wish to express our appreciation to the Governor and to the members of the Legislature for the manner in which the Administration has responded to our appropriation requests. We wish, too, to express our appreciation to the heads of the various State Departments for the courtesy and cooperation extended to the director and staff of this Commission. Without this co-operation and assistance, many of our successful programs and accomplishments would not have been possible.

Respectfully submitted

Sara S. Washington
Sara S. Washington
Chairman

Richard L. Martin
Richard L. Martin
Vice-Chairman

Edgar S. Ballou
Edgar S. Ballou
Secretary

It is impossible for the members of this Commission to give recognition to more than a fraction of the many groups and individuals who are contributing so much to better race relations and a vitalized democracy in New Jersey.

Nor, could we begin to list the many hundreds of individuals, organizations and agencies whose interest in our program and cooperation contributed so much to our successful activities during the past years.

We acknowledge a sizable obligation and assure all of our grateful and sincerest appreciation.

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PRESENT MOST PRESSING NEEDS TO IMPROVE THE CONDITIONS
OF THE URBAN COLORED POPULATION OF THIS STATE

Coordinating scientific fact-finding with a comprehensible, public relations program, the Urban Colored Population Commission has attempted a realistic job in the field of health, education, recreation, housing delinquency and crime breeding conditions of neglected and segregated living areas by callint attention of the public to the most pressing needs of the urban, colored population with respect to their unequal enjoyment of the social and municipal benefits of democratic government.

Reports of recent surveys, released in pamphlet form during the past year included: "Race Relations Trends in New Jersey at Community Levels", "Race Relations Trends in New Jersey - Striking a Balance", "Race Relations Trends in New Jersey - Looking Ahead" and "The Negro Citizen And New Jersey Democracy in the Field of Education".

Previous reports of studies made by this Commission contained definite pronouncements with specific recommendations for Legislative enactment of new laws that appeared needed to correct these inconsistencies in our democratic living.

Members of this Commission are of the opinion that a large part of the solution for the prevailing pressing needs of the urban, colored population of New Jersey appear to be

not in the passage of additional civil liberties laws at this time but in the field of more rigid enforcement of existing laws.

New Jersey is regarded nationally as foremost among all the states in enacting liberal legislation to provide equality of opportunity for the social, economical and political development of its colored citizenry.

However, conclusions, based upon intensive studies by this Commission indicate clearly that the present conditions of the urban colored population is found in: (1) the widespread and state-wide lack of enforcement of the laws intended to protect this equality of opportunity for economical and cultural development of all citizens without discrimination with respect to race, color and creed; and, (2) the complacent condoning by the public of this flagrant dereliction of duty on the part of law-enforcement authorities.

Besides the glaring lack of enforcement of the laws pertaining to the citizens' Civil Rights, members of this Commission are concerned also with the lack of enforcement of the laws relating to zoning, building, and sanitary codes. It is observed that in the neglected areas where lack of enforcement of these codes is prevalent, disease, crime and costs of social services are highest.

Most pressing present needs to improve the economical, cultural and living conditions of the urban, colored population according to studies by the staff of this Commission

appear to be:

1. Continued emphasis of the State's successful program against discrimination in employment, aimed at increased and enlarged opportunities for professional, skilled and unskilled workers.
2. Increased emphasis and provision of facilities for vocational and industrial training in schools and on-the-job training courses.
3. A broad program, including in-service training for city, county and state employees, aimed at establishing an out-standing example in democratic employment policies at governmental levels for native industries to follow.
4. A sound, state-wide program at community levels to provide new areas of living space for the urban, colored population to take advantage of available state aid for housing purposes.
5. An administration inspired and supported movement for impartial application and rigid enforcement of existing Civil Rights Laws regarding discrimination in public places and all other laws intended to protect the citizens' enjoyment of all rights, privileges, and benefits of democratic government without discrimination with respect to race, color, or creed.

A R E V I E W

(Prepared for The Commission By Horace E. Robinson)

The Urban Colored Population Commission of New Jersey basically is a medium for investigating, reporting and recommending to the legislature of New Jersey the discrepancies of the State Laws or the willful or unwillful violations of those statutes which guarantee Constitutional Rights to the State's Citizens. Therefore a large proportion of the work that has been carried on by the Commission has been "lost" in the files of the State House in Trenton or has been manifested in bills passed in the General Assembly. Although to the general public, this work is "lost", the men who govern us find it a most helpful aid which enables them to intelligently run the affairs of the state. Six years is a relatively short time to judge the efforts of an organization which deals in human relations. However, the Commission has done some work, the results of which can be weighed and appraised at this early date.

In 1942, the New Jersey Legislature passed the Stackhouse Bill which made it unlawful for employers engaged on war contracts to discriminate in employment because of race, creed or color. This bill was not sponsored by the Commission but the data gathered by them in their surveys and investigations aided materially in the final adoption of the bill.

Even more significant than the data secured for the passage of this bill was the work of the Commission in breaking down employment barriers to Negroes without using the penalties provided by law in the Stackhouse Bill. This intelligent approach to the problem of discrimination in employment, by plants working on war contracts had several important factors to reveal themselves immediately, while others may not become apparent until years hence. In the first place, by selling the Negro to industry without coercion a more healthy relationship was established between the employer and the Negro employee. This immediately gave the Negro worker at least a fighting chance to make good in a field of employment which for the most part was entirely new to him. But of far greater importance although not so tangible will be the results of the inter-mingling of the two races. In most cases, this was the first opportunity for the white and black man to work side by side on an equal footing---- the product of these experiences will never be measured but their effects will be bound to display themselves in the future.

This lowering of employment barriers was not confined to war plants exclusively, domestics became clerks, porters became doormen, dishwashers became motormen, migrants became stable citizens and all down the line the Negro began to see the "light of day" after years in the "darkness of poverty".

Now that this avenue has been partially opened, the Commission has continued to do all in its power to keep it open. Frequent follow-ups, especially in plants hiring Negroes for the first time have been made. Employers have been encouraged to hire more Negroes. The Commission has persuaded Negroes to stick to their jobs and acquire as much knowledge about them as possible. Negroes have been encouraged to join unions and to participate fully in the activities of the plant or union. It must be remembered at this time the Negro has not been "sold"-- he is on trial and the results of this trial will determine whether he will again fall into that category of "last to be hired and first to be fired".

Education, recreation, health, housing and law enforcement are a few of the other phases in which the Commission has endeavored to secure civil liberties for the Negro without the stigma of segregation or discrimination. As the interplay of the two cultures become more adulterated in these fields a more wholesome relationship as well as a more progressive community will be realized.

Since it is the ultimate aim of the State to have as progressive and wholesome a community as possible some very definite steps have been taken to speed the assimilation of the cultures of a majority and minority group. "Love for Thy Neighbor" cannot be secured over night nor can it be acquired with the signature of the executive department.

When the New Jersey Legislature passed the bill in 1941 which created the New Jersey Negro Population Commission, it created a Commission which is unique in two respects: First, it established a machine to examine, enforce and recommend measures to improve the economic, cultural, health and living conditions of the Urban Colored Population. Second, it empowered the Commission with the authority to formulate measures for the betterment of the shortcomings found in their observations.

In the field of human relations, however, the mere creation of a bill or the passage of an act does not tend to automatically relieve the condition for which a particular bill or act was enacted. With New Jersey situated in a section of the country which, traditionally, according to historical records, has never particularly desired the Negro, he is tolerated and as far as his citizenship is concerned he has the same rights under the law as his white neighbor. However, if the enforcement agencies fail to apply the law equally or to interpret it the same, whether it applies to a white or black face, is a situation which cannot be eradicated by laws, but must be corrected through a process of education. The Negro citizen theoretically has his rights under the law. The Legislature created this Commission and empowered it with ample authority to investigate and examine his rights; but left it powerless to guarantee that the scales of justice could be balanced. Since

the Negro has failed to receive a fair portion of his citizenship rights because of unfair application of the law as well as biased attitudes towards him, the passage and creation of more bills is not the solution. The solution of the problem, in our opinion, can be approached easiest through a process of education or re-education of the entire population of New Jersey in the field of human relations.

For the Commission alone to undertake a task as gigantic as this and over such a long period of time would probably be impracticable; but the Commission has demonstrated successfully to the people of New Jersey the fruits of such a project.

 *

HOUSING

Outside the realm of work opportunities, the most pressing problem facing the Negro in New Jersey is that of adequate housing. Traditionally, the Negro has been forced to accept housing in slums, ghettos and railroad sidings. From this cesspool of dirty streets, and filthy, unlit alleys come a great proportion of both juvenile and adult delinquency. These also constitute a crime and health menace for the state as a whole.

In the state of New Jersey there has been a great influx of both whites and Negroes during the years of World War II. During this period, the incoming whites took over those houses which ordinarily would have gone to the Negroes who were striving for a better environment. Hence the only other thing that could happen and did, was that the ring tightened around the Negro neighborhoods and the families who had been living doubled and tripled in single flats and single rooms were forced to increase the number of occupancy per single room and flat. Disease and death rates have jumped proportionally with the other attendant results of overcrowding.

The Urban Colored Population Commission has urged local governing bodies to take immediate advantage of the facilities of the State Housing Emergency Act and plan a housing program, either through private or public funds or both, to lessen the tension and develop large areas where the Negro can become a class A Citizen. In our slums and ghettos, among people who have not shared fully in the many advantages of being an American citizen, are fertile fields for Un-American doctrines and other sugary details of new philosophies which promise a new and better life. Members of this Commission, knowing there are no barriers to disease and health are alarmed at the potential threat to all living within the state of New Jersey. These areas, also, usually present huge fire traps not only to those living within the area but to those neighborhoods, which are adjacent. The Urban Colored Population

THE NEGRO JUVENILE DELINQUENT IN NEWARK'S THIRD WARD

(A Report of Typical Conditions, Duplicated among the Colored Population in Most of the Urban Communities of The State)

THE NEGRO JUVENILE DELINQUENT IN NEWARK'S THIRD WARD

The primary aim of this report is to bring to the attention of the people of Newark the real causes of delinquency in the third ward as they affect the Negro juvenile. It is hoped also that it might be a means to clear the thinking of those people who hold the erroneous idea that delinquency is not a matter of race but of condition. A quote from "Our Children's Legion" issued by the National Americanism Commission of the American Legion will prove the above statement. "Delinquency flourishes where religious influences are weak; where the communities and the churches have no adequate programs; where schools are inadequate in number, in curriculum and in qualified teaching staff; where poor social standards prevail; where home training and home ties are weak, and where home life is disintegrating; where poverty and squalor are prevalent; where housing and living quarters are crowded, bare, mean and poor; where wholesome living and recreation is lacking; where disreputable dance halls, houses of ill fame, bootlegging joints, gambling dens and slot machines, tough poolrooms, all-night restuarants and hamburger stands and loafing places of the poorer kind exist and among the so-called middle and richer classes where children are pampered, neglected, overindulged or spoiled."

1. GENERAL COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

(a) Housing

The annual report of the Urban Colored Population Commission of New Jersey of 1943 stated these very pertinent facts about housing for Negroes. It says according to the 1940 Census released by the United States Bureau of Census, that 7,165 out of 12,243 dwelling units occupied by Negroes were in the third, seventh, and fourteenth wards; 4,427 are located in the third ward. This shows clearly how overcrowded the housing conditions are for Negroes and particularly in the third ward. Add to this condition the Negro's lower income which forces him into the market for cheaper homes; restrictive covenants which restrict him from moving to other areas; reluctance of landlords to repair or improve property; neglect of equal health and other services offered by municipal governments to other neighborhoods, and facing of patterns of interracial and intra-racial impediments in renting and buying and you have a situation in housing that increasingly breeds delinquency.

(b) Schools

The third ward has few attractive school buildings. Not only are most of the buildings unattractive, but the surroundings are equally as bad. At present, some of these buildings are overcrowded and understaffed.

(c) Churches

The churches in the Third Ward are numerous. There are Baptist and Methodist congregations, and numerous

storefront churches of many faiths scattered throughout the ward. Most of the Baptist churches carry large congregations, as do some of the Methodist churches. Many of these people live in the suburbs. It is the store-front church which draws most of its congregation from the Third Ward. It seems that the programs in most of these churches are still made up to appeal to the emotions of the congregations. Unless their immediate welfare is concerned, very little interest is taken in community welfare.

(d) Social Agencies Serving Negroes

There are a number of Social agencies in the third ward which serve Negroes. The Urban League is interested mostly in their economic welfare, the Y.M.C.A. and the Y.W.C.A., whose interests are in the social, religious, educational, and physical welfare, the Friendly Neighborhood House which has a program for all age groups, the Neighborhood Boys Club, and a few others. These agencies are doing what they can to help better conditions for the Negro. However, there seems to be an overlapping of programs in many cases, and in some instances a confusion as to the real needs. This results, in many instances, in dealing with symptoms instead of recognizing and removing causes which should be their real aim.

(e) Recreational Facilities

Recreational facilities in the ward are mostly offered by the schools. A few are offered by some of the social agencies mentioned. Commercialized recreation takes

a big lead, and there is a great need for more facilities in good wholesome recreation in the ward.

2. NEGRO FAMILY LIFE IN THE THIRD WARD

Because of the conditions of war, bad housing, inadequate recreational facilities and many other factors that are detrimental, the family life of the majority of Negroes in the Third Ward is disorganized. This does not mean that there are not some well organized families in the ward. The Negro family has been exploited in every fashion and finds it almost impossible to take form.

3. THE EXTENT AND NATURE OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

According to the probation department in Newark, delinquency among Negro youth in the ward has increased to some extent. This might be expected since the motivating factors causing delinquency, especially among Negro youth, have also increased under the stress of war. The dependent states too, that the nature of offenses by juveniles are not unusual because of the fact that they are Negroes.

4. CAUSES OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

It seems as if the motivating causes of Juvenile Delinquency among Negro youth are about the same as those present in any ward existing under the same conditions and constituting a majority of any racial group. All the things detrimental to wholesome community life mentioned in the quote from "Our Children's Future" at the beginning of this report are present in the third ward. It seems almost impossible to remove these causes because of disinterest in and

and ignorance of these factors by citizens of both races in and outside of the ward prominent in the public life of the city.

5. VICE CASES OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS

Case A

This is the case of a Negro boy, age fourteen years. He was held for his first offense in 1944 and had no previous record in court. Mother and father are separated and both are considered to be lax, according to reports of the neighborhood and agencies. The mother had children out of wedlock. The father drinks heavily and one other boy in the family has a school record which is not too bad, and makes normal progress in school. His I. Q. is about 110. The father is trying to care for the boy and all other siblings in the family are living with the mother who keeps a clean home. The mother is employed daily and cannot give the proper supervision to the home. The religion of the family is Baptist but the boy does not attend church. The neighborhood is poor, recreational facilities are poor, and the home conditions are poor.

Case B

This is another case of a Negro boy, age fourteen years. This boy made his court appearance on the complaint of incorrigibility, refusing to attend school. He was named in complaint with his brother

on disorderly charges. He attends a Binet school, which he admittedly dislikes, causing much truancy. The home conditions are poor, the apartment in which he lives is untidy and unattractive. The parents are fairly cooperative with officials. The mother is sincerely interested in the children, but the father drinks excessively and spends much money this way. A brother, age thirty, is in the State Prison, and two other brothers are on adult probation. Another brother of the family was in Annandale. Neighborhood is poor, delinquency rates in the neighborhood are excessive. The family is of Baptist faith, but does not attend church.

Case C

This is the case of two brothers, ages 11 and 13 years. They appeared in court on complaint of incorrigibility and truancy. The case was established when they appeared on a complaint of larceny. The mother and father are separated. The mother left home at the father's request. The father has custody of the children and has made honest effort to improve their condition. The children are disobedient to the father. Both parents accuse each other of drinking and other misbehaviors. The parents live in rented rooms. The children live with friends and other people and have lived in a number of homes during a two year period, without direction

or supervision. The father has expressed a willingness to reconciliation but the mother is unwilling. The mother is willing to care for the children if the father will establish a home for them, and live elsewhere but the father's income prohibits this. The father has appeared in court on two occasions, and was put on probation once and committed the second time. Father seems to be most responsible one of the two parents. The mother likes to have a "good time". These boys seem healthy but are mentally retarded. Their school work is poor and truancy high. The boys have had no worthwhile religious training. The neighborhood is poor and recreational facilities are bad.

Case D

Case D is of a 14 year old boy placed on two years probation. The boy's parents are separated. Neither parent is considered a fit person or guardian. This boy always carries a chip on his shoulder and presents a personality problem. He resents questioning of any kind and also resents being on probation and having to report. He is sullen and non-cooperative at intervals. He stays away from home at least one or two nights in a week. He was a truant from school and eventually was sent to Jamesburg for having stabbed a boy in a theatre. The boy is in the dull-normal group mentally. His scholarship is poor and

and his behavior bad in school. He is normal, physically, lives in a poor neighborhood, with poor home conditions.

Case E

This is the case of a big over-grown youth. The boy lives with father and step-mother. There is a total breakdown of discipline at home. The father is indifferent toward the boy and not cooperative with the probation officer. The father seems to condone the actions of the boy. The step-mother is a righteous sincere woman who raised the child. She tries to help the child but is discouraged by the husband's attitude and the child is now beyond her control. The boy is given to lying and evasions and associates with older boys whose identity he withholds. He is lazy in school, makes a nuisance of himself, interferes with the work of the other children, and is insolent. He is a non-confirmist, is irresponsible, and has rejected the authority of the home, school, and court. Neighborhood, home conditions, and recreational facilities are poor.

6. SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Because of the time factor, a special interest and concern and a cognizance of the need for a more complete and scientific study of the problem of the Negro delinquent youth in the third ward, the text of this report has been limited to this area. It is not the purpose of this report to offer any

final solution to the problem but to further expose to the well thinking citizen of Newark a situation that is critical and to offer some recommendation for improvement which might serve, with their assistance, to alleviate some of the social ills from which these young people now suffer.

The report also makes an attempt to show, through the five cases presented, the extent and nature of delinquency among the Negro youth in this area. It might be well to state that ~~these~~ five cases are a very small number of the cases on file for this area, dealing with the Negro Juvenile Delinquent. The number of cases become alarming when compared with the number of similar cases in the entire city.

According to Clifford Shaw in his Chicago report on delinquency areas, and F. M. Thrasher in his study of Gangs; juvenile delinquency thrives in the transition or interstitial areas. The third ward happens to be one of these areas. It is not a strict residential area, and most of the people who live there live in apartments which are rented, and feel no obligation to remain. Therefore, it is hoped that some of the recommendations recorded here will offer some means of bringing about a sense of community consciousness quite necessary toward avoiding further delinquency and creating a wholesome condition.

It might be well to bear in mind that delinquent behavior patterns have a complex source and that they are always in response to a total situation. Among the various operative factors which may be present in the total situation are: age, sex, and mental condition of the individual under examination; pre-

sence of physical or glandular deficiencies; ecological position of the individual in the community; degree of formal education and training; the family and home situation; the delinquent's companions and associates; and the past treatment of the individual by the authorities if he has a delinquency record.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That a committee of citizens representing all of the social agencies serving Negroes in the third ward be formed to study the problem in all of its phases with the purpose of getting a clear and true picture. That this committee would serve voluntarily and that the facts they might discover be formulated into a form which the layman could understand, and that means be found to disseminate these facts to all the citizens of Newark.

2. That on the basis of facts found by this committee it also formulate some definite and effective plan of action to be carried out by the citizens of the city. That the committee urge upon the leading citizens of the ward the dire need for such a program of action which could benefit them as well as the city.

3. That the Negroes of the ward carry the greatest responsibility for promoting and motivating this program, with the assistance of all interested and social minded white citizens throughout the city.

4. That the schools and churches of the community assist by educating the parents and the children to the need for such

a program. The teachers in the school and ministers of the churches might make home visits in the community to explain the program and urge the parents to cooperate.

5. That a close check on all contributing factors toward delinquency be made, and a carefully planned effort made to eliminate them.

6. That all social agencies in the city serving Negroes be strengthened in their programs serving youth and that the agencies clear on the matter of overlapping programs to save time, effort and money.

7. That whenever and wherever possible the youth of the community be brought in to develop and execute this program that plans to serve his needs and interests.

8. That the citizens in other communities throughout Newark be contacted and urged to take part. It might be well in this case to show statistics that will prove to them that they are probably paying the largest amount of the cost for the existing conditions in the third ward.

9. That it be impressed upon the citizenry of Newark that any community that exists as a slum area and harbors conditions which contribute to crime and delinquency is not only a disgrace to the city but reflects the social status and undemocratic practice of its citizens.

HEALTH

(Prepared for the Commission By Odie G. Walker)

Health today is to a very large extent a purchasable commodity, available to the "well-off" and rich populace and beyond the reach of the low-income group. In this low-income group falls the colored population with few exceptions. It cannot be said that there are doctors for the rich and doctors for the poor for often the same physicians treat both. But poor families hesitate to seek skilled medical advice as they cannot afford to pay for it. Doctors suffer from this situation also for their books show heavy proportions of unpaid accounts due to professional responsibility.

The Negro population is becoming fully aware of this problem, of its extent, and its implications. The realization that ill health and subnormal physical condition has no place as a contributor to the welfare of all in a democratic society is conclusive. A minority group cannot be looked upon for full citizenship practices with "half sick and half well".

This state of the Negroes health in New Jersey may be accredited to the underlying social and economic factors. With limitations on living space, the overcrowded and congested areas, and the limitation of job opportunities, there is little wonder that "non-discriminating" diseases have

found an "over-proportional" haven among the Negro population.

Recent study of the annual sickness toll in its social and economic setting among the Negro population of New Jersey indicates marked improvement over recent years yet, definitely far exceeding, a proportional minimum. Of the more common diseases, tuberculosis stands out as a menacing factor. In 1945, there were 543 cases of tuberculosis among Negroes in New Jersey reported to the State Department of Health. Out of this number, there were 374 deaths--a percentage of 21.6 of the total deaths in the state. *This mortality rate is far in excess of the population ratio of which Negroes constitute 5.4 percent. It might well be mentioned that although the tuberculosis rate is higher among Negroes than other racial groups as to percentages, the actual number of cases among Negroes are far less than those of the total white population as not realized by many.

This appalling rate of tuberculosis among the Negro population can definitely be contributed to sub-standard and congested housing, low income, unsanitary working conditions, and inadequate health facilities. This Commission is cognizant of the many State and private institutions whose efforts are to stamp out this dreaded disease wherever possible, but an all-out drive in this direction will require the concentrated efforts of not only the medical profession but social, civic, and political organizations as well. There is little belief that in New Jersey's modern democracy,

there is room for any controlable disease to retard its progress. It would not be feasible at this time to commend the many State and private institutions whose efforts are to stamp out this dreaded disease wherever possible, but an all-out drive in this direction will require the concentrated efforts of not only the medical profession but social, civic, and political organizations as well. There is little belief that in New Jersey's modern democracy, there is room for any controlable disease to retard its progress. It would not be feasible at this time to commend the many State and private institutions now in the fight to stamp out tuberculosis until such time when cases and deaths among the Negro population have been reduced to a minimum.

According to a recent nation-wide survey made by the United Negro College Fund, Inc., it was disclosed that there is only one Negro Physician for every four thousand Negroes compared with one white physician for every nine hundred of the nation's population. It was estimated that thirteen thousand Negro physicians were needed today. New Jersey shares in this disparity.

* "Tuberculosis Control In New Jersey-1945"
New Jersey Tuberculosis League, Inc.,
15 East Kinney Street, Newark, New Jersey

This Commission does not state that members of the medical profession are not accessible to Negroes for there is little distinction of availability, if any, among the physicians of New Jersey. However, this Commission feels that distribution of equal proportions to white physicians will in all probability bring about a vast reduction in the rate of sickness and death among the Negro population and promote better health for a more prosperous and democratic State.

Of a recent survey made by this Commission of one hundred and nine of New Jersey's hospitals, it was disclosed that none of these hospitals employ the services of Negro internship. For this reason, Negroes have been forced to receive internship practices in hospitals outside of the State of New Jersey. This survey also disclosed the following:

Negro nurses serving in hospitals.....	53
(Military installations included)	
Negroes receiving training in Nurses Training Schools.....	22
Negro physicians granted courtesy privileges in hospitals.....	63
Negroes appointed to Medical Staffs of hospitals.....	40
Hospitals practicing segregation.....	10
(To small and large extent)	

A CASE IN THE FIELD OF EMPLOYMENT

(Prepared for the Commission By Roger W. Tucker)

Reviewing the work of this Commission, the field of employment seems to us to be of the most essential. It has been established and recognized that when one is able to receive employment, it tends to reduce many discontents which would ordinarily spring root in the wrong direction, thereby posing a serious problem in human relations. It is to this end that the Commission devoted much of its energy. Our most striking case of employment rests with Public Service Transportation Company. In cooperation with the Council for the Fair Employment of Negroes in Public Utilities, and the New Jersey Urban League, success was not achieved until after twelve months of direct negotiations. The employment of the first two non-whites as bus drivers by Public Service Coordinated Transport Company was confirmed by J. M. Symington, Vice President in charge of operation. The Vice President's statement was the first official acknowledgement by the company and was made in a letter to Roy E. Robinson, industrial secretary of the New Jersey Urban League, October 3, 1946. Public Service officials stated that both men took the regular course of instruction as drivers and qualified on September 23, 1946.

BOTH ARE VETERANS

Other than stating that the men were former employees of the company who served in the armed forces during World War II, the official made no other comment. The men are James Harrison of 64 Morris Street, East Orange, and Robert Randolph of 34 Augusta Street, Newark. Harrison, who was first employed with Public Service as a mechanic on July 24, 1942, was inducted into the Army in February, 1943 and discharged during the month of March, 1946. Employed as a garageman, Randolph first went to the company on March 10, 1942. He served in the Navy from July, 1943 until March, 1946.

18MONTHS OF EFFORT

Mr. Norris, who had had various conversations with Public Service officials regarding employment of Negroes as drivers, agrees that the upgrading of the two men marked the climax of 18 months of effort on the part of the league, the Council for Fair Employment of Negroes, the Urban Colored Population Commission, the Public, and other cooperating organizations. A series of developments which threw into the limelight Emery Ailes, a war veteran, referred to the company, followed with three other men also being referred to Public Service. The men were schooled in bus driving techniques and bus driver's licenses were obtained before filing application with Public Service for employment.

CASE REFERRED TO COUNCIL

Ailes, who was offered another position, was not employed as a driver, however, and his case was referred to the New Jersey Division Against Discrimination. Following this, negotiations with the company bogged down until the fall of the year 1946 when Public Service officials indicated that they were willing to employ Negroes but wanted to wait until the contract with Amalgamated Association of Street, Rail, and Motor Coach Employees' Union, AFL, was signed. During the interim, the Council for the Fair Employment of Negroes with Public Service was formed, with the Rev, Hohn S. Tate of Plainfield as chairman.

COUNCIL PLANS FIGHT

The Council, which was a coalition of organizations throughout North Jersey, passed a resolution calling upon Public Service to end discriminatory policy against Negroes, announcing the start of a campaign to secure 50,000 signatures supporting the organization. 15,000 signatures were obtained on petitions decrying discrimination of Negroes as bus drivers with Public Service. The organization aroused state-wide interest, attracting the attention of the New Jersey Urban League, which had previously failed in their efforts to secure Negro placements as bus drivers. Mr. Norris, in a plea after joining the civic organization, requested that he be permitted to open negotiations with Public Service officials, as a sign of Negro solidarity. Credit for the

CIVIL RIGHTS IN THE COMMUNITY

(Prepared for the Commission By C. Ronald Hightower)

The church continues as the most outstanding institution among the Negroes of New Jersey. While its emphasis has been chiefly on things spiritual, the Commission believes that a more constructive social program might be carried on in the future. It is desirable that each community should utilize the most constructive and effective methods for carrying on its social programs, but it is hoped that the Negro group may have an ever increasing opportunity to share therein. Where such programs are initiated with bi-racial committees or organizations, care should be taken that both the white and the Negro groups face these situations with an identity of interests, agreeing that the Negro citizen of New Jersey is entitled to those conditions which will enable him to develop to his full capacity socially and economically. The development of such conditions will replace with a mutual helpfulness the mutual hurt now experienced by both races.

The importance of the ordinary citizen is very greatly underrated by the average citizen who must build up this better world. Without his help and support, the plans, blueprints, and calculations of the engineers, scientists, statesmen and social experts are useless. If the individual does not grow in his understanding, he is not an effective

member of an effective democracy. Communities and states are bound together to build a nation and a nation's way of life. The people of a nation should think clearly about the relative spheres of government and private enterprise, where one should end and the other begin. National goals and plans for universal employment, for equal educational opportunity, for effective standards in government service, and for national unity, need frequently to be re-studied and restated. The illusion that the United States can live as a nation apart has been dissipated. The people of the United States are coming to recognize that their own future well-being depends in large measures on the responsibilities they assume toward the solution of these problems. "How shall we proceed?" While knowledge in such a situation will be gained, the main purpose is to gather and evaluate the best facts and information upon which to base a decision for early action. Straight uninterrupted progress toward a set goal must not be expected. Thinking hardly proceeds in that manner. Trial and error will enter, steps must be retraced; issues and objectives restated. This must not be interpreted as failure. Progress toward understanding and the solution of social and political problems does not proceed with mathematical precision. At times the group will be like passengers on a raft in a heavy sea. They will be tossed about, most of them will get wet, but all will manage to keep afloat. Through this process there comes refinement and clarification

CULTURAL ASPECTS OF THE URBAN COLORED POPULATION OF NEW JERSEY

(Prepared for the Commission By A. Kenneth Worde)

There are farsighted whites and non-whites in our democratic state of New Jersey, who are aware of the improvements which have been made in the past years and are proceeding toward the future for greater attainment in cultural development of the Urban Colored Population within its borders.

During the last past year or so, many Jerseyans have become increasingly uneasy about the treatment of non-whites. Discrimination and segregation along with Jim Crowisms and other allied prejudices have made us all wonder about the attitude toward over 226,000 colored men, women, and children in our state. The unscientific Southern doctrine of white supremacy appears uncomfortably like the idea that the whites are innately superior to the blacks. The post war period has served to bring the unequal treatment of Negroes much more to the public attention than heretofore. In many parts of the state, factories are slow to take colored workers and Negroes are plainly handicapped in obtaining skilled jobs, especially in the technical and white collar fields. There has been some discussion of separate National Guard units with the ultimate aims to do away with the sinister practices. A move of this type by one of the largest and most powerful states of the union would hasten to do away with the caste system being used in the regular army. It would be a moral

and cultural gain for its colored citizens of New Jersey.

In the appalling housing conditions affecting the non-whites, taboos and restrictions, some formal and legal, but mostly informal and traditional, are a menace to the health of the colored population. Non-white sections are always overcrowded because the population has grown much more rapidly in areas in which they are forced to live. Because so few houses are available for them they are nearly always compelled to pay much more than white families for a decent place in which to live, or else put up with much worse conditions. Many find that even after paying rents which most whites would consider out of reason, they still cannot get decent housing. This segregation has not been because of housing laws. Several attempts have been made to enforce segregation by zoning ordinances, but this proved too unconstitutional. Segregation has been maintained by informal social pressure or property agreement which has been upheld by the courts. Few white property owners will consider selling or renting to non-whites. Associations often devote their energies to keep the Negroes out of white communities. Threats and violence are used if the more peaceful methods fail. Although the United States Housing Authority has provided a considerable amount of low-cost housing to colored, it has usually built separate projects for whites only. Even where mixed projects were undertaken, they were forced by public opinion, except in one or two in-

stances to keep the colored at one end and the whites at the other. Fortunately, this practice has been modified somewhat. Under the new Housing Program instituted by Governor Elect, Driscoll, in our State, the great mass of Negroes are watching the Republican administration's actions of Commissioner Erdman to see if he will eliminate all of these unfair practices which have been affecting the cultural gains of the Colored urban population.

The Negroes of New Jersey themselves are, of course, most disturbed by all of this. They see a wide gap between the prophesied belief in race equality, as evidenced by the **many** hostilities shown in separated and segregated schools,

the lack of enforcing powers for the Civil Rights Laws and the non participation of colored workers in many of the State, Municipal, and County governmental offices. This proves that a non-white is rarely allowed to forget that he or she is different. Non-whites are not often permitted to be a Jerseyan first and a Negro second. They are looked upon primarily as Negroes. Many have become prominent, but usually as representatives of their group. A colored economist is always expected to specialize in Negro problems; a Negro lawyer is expected to handle non-white cases; a Negro soloist is expected to sing Negro songs; and a Negro trade union leader usually represents Negro workers. Most of the Negroes holding high government posts serve as advisers on Negro affairs. Non-whites in the most humble walks of life

are most handicapped. They are never allowed to forget their color. Many of the better paid occupations and professions are practically closed to them. In some instances in our State, Negroes find it difficult to carry out their duties as cultural citizens.

In spite of the retardments set backs, and handicaps, the urban Colored population of New Jersey has shown a marked gain in their cultural progress. The seeds for this advancement were sown by the deceased Assemblyman, Dr. Frank S. Hargraves, of Orange, New Jersey, during the last years of the late depression, when he introduced a bill in the State's Legislature to create a temporary Commission to study the living conditions of the Urban Colored Population, focusing special attention to their affectations in the fields of Economics, Housing, Health, Employment, Education, and last but not least, their cultural and moral behaviors for betterment of the greatest good for the greatest numbers. This bill passed both houses of the legislature and was enacted into law by the Republicans over the veto of their Democratic Governor Moore in the year of 1938 and was known as the Hargrave's Bill.

Has any minority group ever started out with greater handicaps and made more significant progress in a shorter time than the New Jersey Negro? Every American youth should have the opportunity to know the thrilling story of the

achievements of the non-whites in New Jersey. Such knowledge would be most effective in discrediting the outgrown theory of the uncultured non-whites other than the many whites. In spite of the many achievements of record of the non-whites in Jersey, whites are still hesitant to give their attainments credit. The purpose of this Commission is to cultivate a better understanding between whites and non-whites and to make known the contributions the group is trying to affect as a whole in the State, toward social brotherhood. To this end, the following is an outline to make even better cultural development. Education of the youth and a state wide program introducing the Core for the Cultural Education which may be the answer for the complete indoctrination of both groups.

1. The claims of the Cultural temper: This involved youth's introduction to: (a) the nature of the physical world and the non-white's place in it. (b) the social demands of the machine age and the place the Negro must play in it (c) and the scientific methods as an instrument to train the whites, the equality of man, regardless of his color.

2. The use of the cultural sense which must be exerted by the white youths to (a) nature personal experience of achievements of non-whites as cultural purposes and progresses (b) orient themselves in the racial heritage of humanities and forget about color (c) understand the reality

of the humanities of the non-whites in New Jersey and (d) help them to be balanced because man and nature are unseparable.

3. If the formention was breached and practised, the possibilities of social equality and social democracy may be found at a future date within the boundaries of New Jersey, because this would represent the youth's right to be informed concerning the rise of the democratic tradition in the State (b) to be sensitized to the great problem of whites and non-whites in New Jersey (c) to be sensitized to the social problem that New Jersey is facing in bettering the conditions of its minority group (d) and all youth to share scholastic experience in educational race relation problems.

All of this points up the responsibility of the State (a) to intensify the sense of social and moral awareness of the youth (b) lead youth to grasp what it means for people to live side by side without race prejudices or to live democratically (c) help youth clarify the changes which are being exerted by the non-whites because of the advantages the State affords for cultural improvement by all (d) enlist youth's concern to educate their elders of the changing patterns which are being woven in the States laws for equal opportunity for all regardless of race, creed, or color.

In a way, then the advancements of the cultural aspects of the Urban Colored Population has afforded a great honor-

