

are lifted into the light, and given their fair share in the blessings of life that God meant for us all alike.

"Let all lovers of justice unite; let us stand together and fight every custom, every law, every institution that breeds or masks violence and prejudice, and permits one class to prosper at the cost of the well-being and happiness of another class. Let us hurl our strength against the iron gates of prejudice until they fall, and their bars are sundered, and we all advance gladly towards our common heritage of life, liberty and light, undivided by race or color or creed, united by the same human heart that beats in the bosom of all."



#### SEN. CLAPP OF MINNESOTA

**T**HE term of Moses E. Clapp, United States Senator from Minnesota, expires on March 4th, 1917. Already his enemies are laying plans to defeat him for renomination and re-election.

With one possible exception, Senator Clapp is the only member of the Senate who can be absolutely relied on to support every measure in the interests of colored people, and to fight prejudice and injustices without cessation.

He has never failed us on a single occasion. Whenever this Association wants something done for colored people we write to him. We have never asked him to speak at a mass meeting, to write a letter to some high official, to introduce a good bill or fight a bad one, and received a refusal from him. He has fought "Jim Crow" and anti-intermarriage bills tooth and nail. He fought for favorable amendments to the Smith-Lever and other unfair bills. It was he who induced the Secretary of War to send an official representative of the War Department to our Spingarn Medal meeting in Boston.

We do not know if he desires re-election. But if he does, every col-

ored man and woman, every friend of the Negro, every lover of justice and fair-play should rally to his support. And if he does not, we should all do our best to persuade him to alter his mind. For we need him just where he is. Senator Clapp must continue to represent the interests of Colored people in the Senate of the United States.

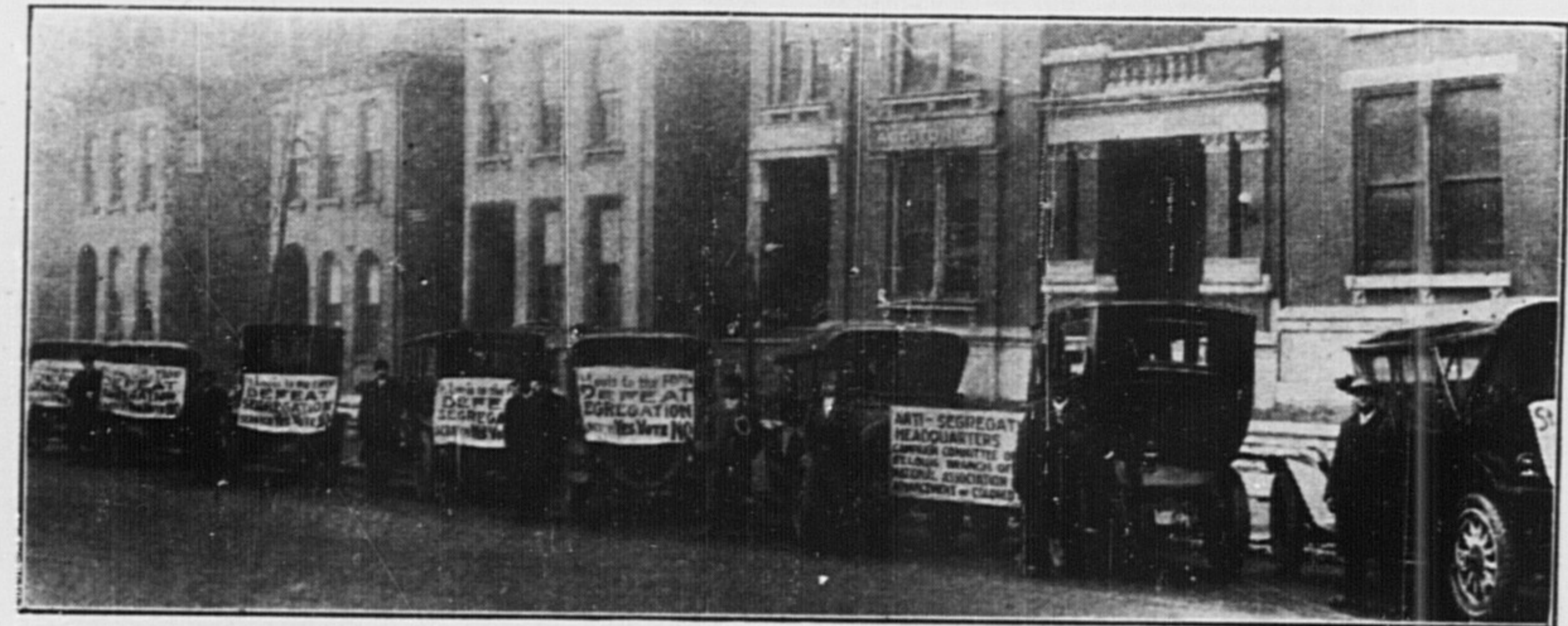
J. E. S.



#### INTERMARRIAGE

**T**HERE are those who from time to time suggest that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and THE CRISIS go far afield in opposing laws to prohibit intermarriage between white and colored people. They argue that neither race desires intermarriage; that it is a matter "purely social," and that legalizing the prohibition simply puts stern custom into law. Every now and then, however, there come cases which show the utter blindness of the persons who thus argue and prove that anti-intermarriage laws are simply cloaks for wrong and injustice. In Evansville, Ind., just across the river from Kentucky, Clifford Yarbrough, a wealthy white man of Pulaski, Tenn., came into the Circuit Court the other day and asked permission to adopt a seventeen-year-old mulatto girl. The girl might easily pass for white; she is strikingly beautiful and talented in music. Yarbrough willingly admitted that the girl's mother was colored, and that he was the father. He said, "I feel like I should rectify a wrong." There is no law against intermarriage of races in Indiana, but there is in Tennessee. Judge Givens, therefore, refused to permit the adoption. He said that "if he legitimized the daughter he would be taking a step which would in practice have the same results as permitting the intermarriage of races." Therefore let us piously ruin the life of an innocent girl!

## National Association for the Advancement of Colored People



THE AUTOMOBILE PHALANX, ST. LOUIS, MO.

#### SEGREGATION IN ST. LOUIS

**T**HE voters of St. Louis, at the special election held February 29th, decided three to one in favor of segregation. The vote was light, only 70,000 out of a total registration of 140,010; whereas at the election of 1912 a total poll of 130,000 was counted. On both ordinances, the final vote stood approximately 52,000 against 18,000. The majority of the electorate expressed their indifference by staying away from the polls while the active real estate interests set aside 50,000 colored Americans as though all were criminals, lunatics, or afflicted with contagious disease.

The ordinance provides that hereafter no colored person can move into any residence, place of abode, or place of public assembly in any block where seventy-five per cent of the number of such buildings are now used by white people. A block includes the buildings facing each other on both sides of a street. The Building Commissioner is charged with the duty of preparing a map which shall classify every block in the city, and "such map . . . shall be prima facie evidence of the facts." New additions to the city are to be black or white according to a vote of the property owners taken after a month's publication. And a fine of ten to one hundred dollars per day is provided for owners or agents who violate the ordinance.

The act is humorously entitled "AN ORDINANCE TO PREVENT ILL FEELING,

CONFLICT AND COLLISIONS BETWEEN THE WHITE AND COLORED RACES, AND TO PRESERVE THE PUBLIC PEACE," and there is another joker which makes it legal for the white servants employed by colored people to reside in the colored blocks; that is, in St. Louis, it is as legal for a millionaire to borrow from a pauper as it is for a pauper to borrow from a millionaire.

The propaganda in favor of segregation was conducted by the United Welfare Association, a body including some twenty real estate and improvement associations, organized in 1911 for this express purpose; and by the Real Estate Exchange. The special election was the first held on initiative petition since that provision was incorporated in the city charter. The *Republic* ably assisted the real estate interests, and from the fact that the Central Trades and Labor Union tabled by a two to one vote a resolution condemning segregation on February 27, it is evident where organized labor stood.

Leading the fight against segregation were the St. Louis Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Antioch Baptist Association, a Citizens' Committee composed of one hundred of the most prominent men and women in the city of both races, and the Socialists. The *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* and the *Times* were squarely and uncompromisingly against segregation, as was St. Louis