Shelby J. Davidson, then Secretary of the Branch, did, over a period of several months, gather considerable evidence. Mr. Davidson again found that one of the main difficulties was to obtain definite proof which could be freely used. He found that a number of government employees would talk about the matter but would not be responsible for statements concerning rulings and practices in the departments which would make tangible evidence on which to proceed.

During 1927 the matter was taken up by the District of Columbia Branch, under the leadership of Mr. Neval H. Thomas, President of the Branch. Mr. Thomas launched a vigorous campaign and offered to take full responsibility for the fight, but the clerks involved insisted on sharing the responsibility and readily gave information and data on which the Branch might proceed. Mr. Thomas and the colored clerks were backed up by a country-wide press campaign released from the National Office.

The first breach in the segregation policy was made in the Department of the Interior when two Negro clerks were ordered to report as pension examiners. Soon after this 42 colored employees in the same department were ordered back to their old and unsegregated posts. This ended segregation in the Pension Bureau, Department of the Interior, Secretary Hubert Work's memorandum directing "that all the employees in the Pension Bureau, both white and colored, affected by the new organization of the Division of Files be restored to the location and work assignments they formerly occupied."

The Branch next attacked discrimination against colored clerks in the General Land Office. Fifteen out of the twenty-one clerks affected signed a letter addressed to Secretary Work, protesting against the enforced segregation. Following this, segregation of clerks in the Treasury Department was protested, not only in the Department bureaus, restaurants, rest rooms, etc., but also the complete Negro department in the office of the Register of the Treasury.

The breaches in the segregation policy made during 1927 were the consequence of the well-planned campaign waged by the Branch and engineered by its President, with the cooperation of other bodies. In the course of the campaign Mr. Thomas several times headed delegations which called upon department officials. In several of the delegations were Mr. A. S. Pinkett, Secretary of the Branch; Mr. Robert J. Nelson, Editor of the Washington Eagle; Mr. Thomas A. Johnson of the Equal Rights League. Mr. Nelson also represented the Elks.

The colored press of the country rallied almost as a unit in this campaign and the Branch was able to present to department officials copies of newspapers from every part of the United States showing that sentiment was united against the practice which had been inaugurated in government departments.

PUBLICITY

The number of press releases sent out in 1927 compared with the two previous years, is as follows:

1925.																	48
1926.																	50
1927.																	48

This is exclusive of the letters addressed to the editors of influential daily newspapers, often printed and constituting a highly effective way of setting forth the Association's point of view.

The effectiveness of these letters was repeatedly demonstrated, notably in the campaign against the enactment of anti-intermarriage laws in Northern States. Letters pointing to the obvious injustice of such laws were sent to the most important dailies in the State of Maine, for example, and helped create the public sentiment by which this bill was killed.

On all its activities the Association has received exceptional response this year from the leading daily newspapers. For example, the 1926 Annual Report of the Association received editorial mention in the Brooklyn Standard Union; the Parkersburg, West Virginia, News; the New York Evening Post; and the Rochester Democrat-Chronicle, the editorial from this newspaper being reprinted in the Springfield, Mass., Union; the Portland, Maine, Press-Herald; the Newark News; and the Binghamton, N. Y., Press.

Conspicuous advance has been made during the year in the response of Southern editors to the work of the Association. An editorial in the New York *Times*, commending the pamphlet on the Negro's African Cultural Endowment, prepared by the Secretary with the assistance of the Director of Publicity and published by the Slater Fund, was reprinted by newspapers in Texas, Alabama, and North Carolina, as well as in the Northern daily press.

Repeatedly the releases of the Association have been broadcast by the Associated Press to hundreds of newspapers throughout the